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THE NATIONAL ERA.

G. BAILEY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR; JOHN G. WHITTIER, CORRESPONDING EDITOR.

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G. BAILEY, *Washington, D. C.*

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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For the National Era.

HERMAN;
OR,
YOUNG KNIGHTHOOD.

BY E. FOXTON,
Author of "Prémices."

CHAPTER XXII—Continued.

In the evening, Edward went yet once more to Mr. Trimmer's, and told him of the events of the day. The old man looked downcast and foreboding. "The individual stammered?"

"Excessively; but his situation might have accounted for that."

"Military sir? Noble bearing?"

"Very likely; I'm no judge," said Edward, dryly. "But he wore a blue coat, with large gilt buttons."

"Ah! I'm fearful that was Draycee! Very fearful! I would be very sorry to think so, very sorry. Draycee a man of his word—fine, generous, noble-hearted fellow, as ever lived; but ardent and patriotic, almost to a fault. I expect he had just quitted Captain Lynch's table. Lynch gave an early banquet to his friends, to preclude them from desiring to attend yours. This very morning, on receiving intelligence that such was his design, I observed to him, 'Lynch,' I spoke to him very plainly—'Lynch,' said I, 'now, if you can restrain the public, and refrain from so doing, your conduct is culpable. You are all of you inclined to proceed too much upon the hypothesis that the criminal'—I ask pardon, your brother—'will bail except from motives of the State; and natives won't give it; and lawyers won't plead; and magistrates won't put down riots; and young men won't eat my dinners, and insult me for inviting them; and people don't know how to behave and be treated like a gentleman, as usual, meddle with nobody and have nobody meddle with me, pay any sum that was wanted, and get my brother and myself out of the State again as fast as I could; and judges won't take bail except from natives of the State; and natives won't give it; and lawyers won't plead; and magistrates won't put down riots; and young men won't eat my dinners, and insult me for inviting them; and people don't know how to behave and be treated like a gentleman, and myself into the bargain!" Edward had scarcely finished, before he felt that he had been betrayed into rather a plaintive, undignified, and ludicrous exposition of his grievous injury; and the discordant, mocking laugh, which Mr. Broadstone repeated upon hearing it, increased his wrath. With a hasty bow to Mr. Halifax, he caught up his hat; but Broadstone thrust himself between him and the door, seized him by the hand, and ground his knuckles within his own sinewy palm, with such a grip that he was forced to squeeze back again in self-defence with such another, that, having shaken hands collectively, they were each obliged to do so singly and severally.

"Say no more! I'm your man. I should have had to do your business, at any rate, for the honor of the State, but I couldn't have done it much to my own, if you'd been an Abolitionist of the common sort, for I hate 'em to the degree that I'd not be seen in their company in the street—I'm a slaveholder myself—but I'll do your business, and stalking like a pendulum, back and forth, from one end of the little office to the other, as if he wanted to get out. "It was read and stopped in the office, *I* presume; as my letters and other people's have been before, and will be again!" He paused an instant, as if for redress, before Mr. Halifax. "Nice impression we must make upon strangers!" continued he, resuming his strides, and measuring off the sanded floor with his long legs like a pair of compasses. "Abolitionist, sir?" said he, with another pause, this time before Edward.

"I vow I don't know what I am!" cried Edward, starting up in his turn, and smiting his forehead in utter desperation. "A maniac, by all rights, I ought to be. All I can answer for is, that twenty days ago, at any rate, I was neither a lunatic, nor a fanatic, nor anything but a peaceable, respectable citizen in Boston, sitting in my own parlor, and poking my own fire. In came a letter, to say that my younger brother, positively the finest and most honorable young fellow I ever saw in my life, who had been travelling here, had been taken up and put on suspicion of having stolen a negro, by a man who had lost one. The poor youngster might have got himself out of harm's way as well as not, but was taken up in the very act of stopping to save the life of one of the very party who arrested him, who was bleeding to death by himself in the woods. Of course, then, I came to do what I could for him, as anybody would have done in my place; but I expected to behave and be treated like a gentleman, as usual, meddle with nobody and have nobody meddle with me, pay any sum that was wanted, and get my brother and myself out of the State again as fast as I could; and judges won't take bail except from natives of the State; and natives won't give it; and lawyers won't plead; and magistrates won't put down riots; and young men won't eat my dinners, and insult me for inviting them; and people don't know how

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 1859.

MANUFACTURING IN THE SOUTH.

The Philadelphia *Inquirer* undertakes to show the utility and feasibility of conducting manufactures on an extended scale in the slaveholding States. It says:

"We know of no single measure which we should more like to see carried into effect than the establishment of manufactures in the Southern States. And this, for reasons alike special and general, for the benefit of those States themselves, and for the country at large.

"But can manufacturing industry be there prosecuted—*i. e.*; can the requsite means, materials, and facilities, be had there?

"Why not, we ask? Why should not the South produce cotton fabrics at all events, and these not for home consumption solely, but for foreign supply, if need were? Look at present modes of proceeding, and tell us if they are authorized by any principle of political economy?"

In reply to these inquiries, we would point the *Inquirer* to the fact, that the idea of introducing a system of manufactures in the South is no new one. It has been a frequent and habitual theme of newspaper discussion in the Southern States for the last quarter of a century, and not a few manufacturing enterprises have been undertaken in the South, which have been attended with some success. Small cotton factories have been established, and we believe that where they have been well managed, they have become profitable investments. But still, the South is not a manufacturing country, and cannot be while Slavery continues. The main difficulty is the want of capital; and there are others which result from the inferiority of slave labor.

Slavery abstracts nearly all the capital in the Southern States. There are now some four millions of slaves, which, at five hundred dollars each, are worth two thousand millions of dollars. This is not far from half the wealth of the slaveholding States, and it is a great deal more than half the value of those portions of the South in which Slavery chiefly abounds. The North is far wealthier than the South; but if an equal portion of Northern capital were sunk in the purchase of four millions of negro slaves, its capacity for manufacturing as well as for commercial enterprise would be materially lessened.

To invest capital in human beings is to sink it, so far as its productive capacity is concerned. The human being will work for day wages, and hence it is not necessary to invest a thousand dollars in him as a slave. If one hundred thousand dollars will set one hundred freemen at work in a factory or on a plantation, then two hundred thousand will be required where slaves are employed and owned by the manufacturer. It will not mend the matter to say, that the manufacturer need not own the slaves he employs—that he may hire them; for, if the laborers be owned as property, their value must be deducted from the capital of the community which is available for investment. We are not maintaining, now, that the owners of slaves are not as well reimbursed in profits upon their investments as those who employ free labor. Let it be conceded that Slavery is profitable to the individual slaveholder, and still it is a dead loss to the community. The profits which arise to the slaveholder, as such, are merely the wages which should be paid to his slaves; and it is clear, that to take the fruits of one man's labor, and confer them upon another, is not to add to the aggregate production of the community.

Property in slaves is therefore wholly unproductive. Slavery is merely a monopoly. It simply robs the laborer of his wages, and turns them over to his master, but it produces nothing. Where slaves are employed in any industrial enterprise, it is not their value which is invested in it, but their food and clothing for the time being, merely. These constitute the wages of the slave, and these are necessary investments; but the investment of a thousand dollars in his ownership is not necessary, because the laborer will work without being owned. This investment, therefore, though it may secure a profitable monopoly, or privilege of appropriating another man's earnings, can produce nothing—or, in other words, add nothing to the common stock.

We think that the correctness of these propositions cannot be disputed by any one who will take the pains to reflect for a few moments; and if they be correct, it follows that the community which establishes or tolerates Slavery gives encouragement to an investment of capital, which, however profitable it may be to the individual, is ruinous to the public prosperity.

The property in slaves in this country has not been acquired without the same outlay of labor and capital as other property. It is no easier to get possession of a hundred slaves than of the same value in other forms; yet, as we have seen, this property, now amounting to two thousand millions of dollars, is utterly withdrawn from the productive resources of the South—utterly sunk, in other words.

We will further illustrate this position by supposing that the whole slave population were suddenly removed, and that their places were supplied by an equal number of free white laboring people, such as inhabit the free States of the North. This supposition disencumbers the economical question of any connection with the questions regarding the condition of the negro, his fitness for freedom, and his readiness to perform voluntary labor for wages, on his own account. In the case supposed, the South would have all the land, all the money, houses, fixtures, and personal property, other than slaves, which it now has; and there would be as many hands to labor, as many mouths to feed, and as many backs to clothe, as now; and we will not dwell upon the fact that these free laborers would be stimulated by the prospect of bettering their conditions in life, which slaves cannot indulge. What, we ask, under such circumstances, could prevent the South, thus freed from Slavery, without compensation to the slaveholders, from producing as much as it now can with slaves? Two thousand millions of property would be destroyed by this transformation, and yet the South would remain with all its present resources! The two thousand millions taken from the slaveholders would be restored in the four millions of freemen who own themselves, and who are worth that sum, to say the least, to themselves. It follows from hence that capital invested in slaves merely purchases a monopoly to one class, at the expense of another, and that it is sunk or thrown away to the community at large.

There are other practical difficulties in the ay of establishing manufactures in the South. the first place, the mechanic arts and manutures require a class of laborers superior in elligence and skill to such as will merely do ield hands. This intelligence and skill can be expected of slaves, to whom are denied very rudiments of education, and who at the same time are deprived by their condition of the ordinary motives of ambition and interest which stimulate free laborers to improvement. In the second place, it would be utterly impracticable to build up a manufacturing city in which the whole laboring class should be slaves, for the simple reason that they would make themselves free. Thus aggregated, they could not be held in Slavery. The most fanatical champion of the peculiar institution would not deem it possible to hold laboring populations as large as those of Philadelphia, Baltimore, or even of Lowell, in Slavery; and the bare suggestion of this impossibility will illustrate the absurdity of all speculations about making the slaveholding South a manufacturing country. A few small factories, or here and there a workshop, may do well, but that is all that can be accomplished while Slavery lasts.

These remarks, of course, presuppose the employment of slave labor. On the northern borders of the South, where the institution of Slavery has only a nominal existence, manufactures are beginning to take root and flourish. This is the case in Baltimore, Wilmington, (Del.,) Wheeling, (Va.,) Louisville, and St. Louis.

Slavery presents obstacles to Southern commerce of precisely the same character which we have referred to in connection with manufactures. The absorption of capital in an unproductive form, the want of intelligence, skill, and ambition, in the slaves, and the utter impossibility of bringing together large masses of slaves without precipitating insurrection, are as potent obstacles in one case as in the other.

These circumstances, which utterly disqualify a slaveholding community from succeeding in commerce or manufactures, render the South eminently an agricultural region. Slaves may be employed in agriculture, for the reason that the labor required is rude and coarse; and the nature of the employment, requiring dispersion over a large surface, is favorable to the preservation of order and subordination.

It is also to be remarked, that the staple products of the South cannot be produced so well, if at all, in any other part of the country; and this circumstance gives the planters a valuable monopoly of production, which confers a factitious value upon Slavery. A very shallow class of reasoners maintain, in consequence of this state of things, because the production of cotton is highly profitable to the planters, that Slavery, which is the mere incident of the cotton culture, is the cause of its success. If this were true, it would be difficult to explain how it is that Slavery, when brought into competition with free labor, always falls into decay, as it is now doing in Maryland, Virginia, Missouri, and Kentucky. Whenever Slavery is deprived of a monopoly of production, it begins to recede. The slaves are sold, or removed further south, and their place is taken by free labor.

The radical objection to Slavery in a politico-economical point of view, viz: that it is an unnecessary, and therefore an unproductive, investment of capital, adheres to it, as well in agriculture as in commerce and manufactures. The ownership of the laborers requires an additional outlay of capital, generally equal to, if not greater, than that which is invested in lands, houses, cattle, and so forth; and in new countries, where lands are cheap, the value of the slaves employed to cultivate the land far exceeds the value of the necessary investment. It is for this reason that, with all the advantages possessed by the Southwest in the production of cotton and sugar, it has fallen far behind the Northwest in the race of prosperity.

A LETTER FROM GOV. WISE.

A letter from Gov. Wise has recently made its appearance in the newspapers, addressed to the Hon. David Hubbard, of Alabama. It is dated January 3. The following passages are particularly worthy of note. It will be seen that the author insists on the duty of Congress to protect Slavery in the Territories, a proposition which we last week conceded to him the the credit of originating. He says:

"I am sorry to be informed '*that the South is now a widow.*' A widow is a forlorn being, and demands all my sympathy. It is true that I am a married man already, and can't tender the 'lady in weeds' my 'true and gallant' devotion as a '*husband.*' And were I in a state of single blessedness, it would still be against nature for me to tender my hand to the South in holy wedlock, for I claim to be born of her womb, and to be as loyal a son as ever sucked the milk of his mother, and to be ready to protect her in weal or woe against every enemy and every evil, according to the best ability with which God and her nursing have endowed me. Protect her! Ay, if I do not, may my right hand forget its cunning! From what? From Abolitionists and Protectionists, and land jobbers and Treasury robbers! Yes, as I always tried to do, much to my own cost. And from the treachery of sons of her own, and from the folly of her sincere friends, too, I mean to try to protect her, as I have tried of late in vain. *I would protect her from the authors of Kansas-Nebraska bills—from the Free-Soilism of Badger amendments—from the effects of repealing laws establishing and protecting Slavery in Territories—from the false protection of non-intervention, withdrawing all pretension to protect all persons and property equally and alike on the common territory of joint settlement*—from Lecompton policy, that had not the wisdom even of Æsop's cock in the fable—from the compromises of English bills, which stripped us of every particle of prestige we had left—from the wickedness of 'force and fraud,' and the folly of a minority attempting to establish a rule of '*fas aut nefas*' in the face of an unscrupulous majority. We were strong on the moral ground of equality. We relinquished that in attempting to assume more than equality, and we lost all character for justice."

The following extract will show his estimate of the free white laboring classes of the North:

"We have tried to play the same game of 'snatch as snatch can,' with the most snatching snatchers in the world. We have challenged a competition of settlement, with a thin, slaveholding, agricultural population on our part, against a majority host of commercial, trading, free-white, Free-Soil people, who have not all homes, and who are keeping a sharp look-out for them, and who can use Sharpe's rifles put into their hands by fanaticism to acquire them. All they ask is for the rule to be once fixed that you can take all you can, and hold all you can take, and that no power of Congress or other power is to interfere to hinder the strongest in taking and holding all."

The following extracts may be regarded as a general indictment against the Administration, embracing half a dozen or more counts, each one of which charges a capital offence. He says:

"Ay—and is Democracy as well as the South to have no out-spoken, honest counsellor? Are we to be given over to the Federal gods of Pacific railroads? Are we to *out-Yazoo Yazoo?* To out-Adams Adams, in putting internal improvements by the General Government on the most omnipotent and indefinitely stretching power of all powers of the Federal Government—the *war power?* Are we to abolish ad valorem and adopt specific duties, to supply a tariff for revenue, the standard of which is already eighty-one millions of expenditure on three hundred and twenty-one millions as the average rate of importations? Are we to increase eighty-one millions of expenditure to the unknown limitless amount required for railroads across this continent; for Post Office that don't pay expenses; for pensions unheard of in character and amount; for a land office which gives away three acres for every one sold, and brings us in debt; for increase of standing army, such as our frontiers, and Indian wars, and protectorate of foreign territory, propose; and for such a navy as Isthmian wars with no less than eight Powers of the earth, England, Spain, France, Mexico, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, New Granada, and Paraguay, demand, if threatened only? Is protection to be turned into prohibition? If so, what is a '*direct tax?*' Is *land tax* the only one which can be '*apportioned?*' Are the land owners to pay all the cost of the crusade of Congress and manifest destiny? Is strict construction and are State rights to be abandoned, and are we to give up State corporations to the bankruptcies of a Federal commission? Where would have been our people and their effects last year, if a Federal power could have put our State banks into a course of liquidation under a commission of bankruptcy? Is the South, is any portion of our country, in a situation to rush into war—wars invited by the President with three European and five American Powers? And are we to be a grand, consolidated, elective, North and South American imperialism?

"*The question is not, 'Will the Union be dissolved?' That is a settled question. But the question is, 'Is the old Virginia Democratic faith to be abandoned, and are we to rush on with the President into a full scheme of Federal policy which in its whole outline and filling up exceeds any Federalism in all its points which a Hamilton, or Adams, or any other latitudinarian, ever dared to project or propose?* For my part, I take ground now firmly and at once against the *war power.* I am for the Washington policy of peace, and against all entangling alliances and protectorates, and the Jackson rule of 'demanding nothing but what is right, and submitting to nothing that is wrong,' and for preserving and protecting the South and the whole country from ambitious and buccaneering wars, of which the landed and planting interests would have to hear the burdens at a great sacrifice of present prosperity. * * *

"*The President bids high. To filibusters he offers Cuba and the Isthmus and North Mexico; to the West, a Pacific railroad; to the North, protection to iron and coarse woollens; and to the great commercial countries, the power of centralization by obvious uses and abuses of a bankrupt act to apply to State banks.* Yesterday Biddle was a monster, and to-day a few Wall-street bankers can expand and contract upon us more like a vice than he did; and what would they not do, if they could force the poor provinces when they please into bankruptcy? I have written this right on, and you may do what you please with it. Yours, truly,

"Henry A. Wise."

It will be seen that Gov. Wise assumes, as a foregone conclusion, that the Union is to be dissolved. This idea on his part will doubtless explain his ultra Pro-Slavery position. It is incredible that a man of his intelligence can hope to carry a Northern State on the platform he lays down above. He must know that no Northern constituency will ever vote for any man who avows himself in favor of Congressional legislation for the protection of Slavery in the Territories; and he should know that his uncomplimentary allusion to the Northern population is not calculated to make friends. His principles are repulsive, and his language insulting. Under such circumstances, he cannot hope to be elected President; and his ambition to be the candidate is prompted by the desire to be the great leader in the Southern rebellion, to be organized if a Republican is elected President of the Union. It will be recollected that Gov. Wise went to Raleigh, North Carolina, in 1856, in order to meet other Southern Governors, and organize a general rebellion, in the event of Fremont's election. He still clings to this treasonable design; and while he is exerting every nerve to become the candidate of the "Democratic" party for the Presidency, he proclaims beforehand that the Union is to be dissolved. Rule or ruin, is his motto.

Governor Wise may, for aught we can foresee, become the candidate of the remnant or rump of the Democracy which will be represented at Charleston; but with such a platform as he lays down, we doubt if he will have so much as an electoral ticket in any free State. He has placed himself *hors du combat* for any purpose even pretending to be national; while for the treasonable schemes meditated by the Raleigh Convention of 1856, and still ardently cherished by the dominant party in all the States south of North Carolina and Tennessee, he is the representative man.

But Gov. Wise cannot carry Virginia into any such treasonable scheme. The Old Dominion will adhere to the Union; and if the Democracy of that State wish to be buried fifty fathoms deep by the Opposition, they have only to follow the lead of their erratic Governor. This, however, they will never do. Gov. Wise has lost the confidence of the Virginia Democracy. In his Senatorial contest with Mr. Hunter, he was beaten so badly that his friends will not own that he was in the field. So it will be when he brings forward his proposition to dissolve the Union. The entire Opposition, with nine-tenths of the Democracy, will join in putting down any such treasonable and suicidal project.

By all means let Gov. Wise be the rump candidate for the Presidency. He will be cordially sustained by the Disunionists and African slave-traders; and it is not improbable that he will sweep the Gulf States like a whirlwind. We shall then have an opportunity of testing the strength of the Union. He will be elected President of the Gulf States by acclamation; and he, if any man, will have the courage to lead them in the effort to secede.

A LAW-ABIDING PEOPLE.

The Washington *States*, the Douglas organ, copies an article from the Columbia *South Carolinian*, rejoicing at the result of the trial of the pirates at Charleston, who were caught in the very act of landing a cargo of slaves upon our coasts. This result is heralded forth as the triumph of popular sentiment over law; and so generous is the South Carolinian, that he is willing that the North shall in future refuse the delivery of fugitive slaves. The *States* heads the article, "Federal Impotency against Public Sentiment." The writer says:

"As the Charleston *Mercury* says of the slave-trade cases, so say we of *all* attempts to force *any* Federal measure against public sentiment; it will be 'idle, expensive, and vain.' Whether at the North or at the South, in the East or West, show us anywhere an American community, and we will show a community which may be so influenced that it will cleave to sentiment, and sacrifice law. * * *

"Congress may pass fugitive slave laws, anti-slave-trade laws, Territorial slave laws, but they are worth nothing against public sentiment. Perhaps some may say that this is a tendency to anarchy, and should he remedied—that these laws should be enforced. It can only be done by changing our Federal Government, and remodelling it upon a more centralized plan. That is the only remedy. Let those who oppose us assume it, and we shall meet them on it. * * * The slave-trade men of the South have achieved their object; what can they complain of? The anti-fugitive-slave-law men of the North have achieved theirs; should they not be satisfied? In either, we recognise practical *higher-lawism*—that rule of action which makes public sentiment 'a law unto itself.'"

Slaveholders, of all people in the world, are the last who should appeal to the higher law. It may be convenient, for the present, to maintain a doctrine which it is supposed will justify the perjury of Southern jurors, but it will not work well in the long run.

It was the fashion, a few years ago, for Southern editors and politicians to teach a very different doctrine. Until very recently, they professed to be the most law-abiding people in the world. Nothing was so sacred as law, and to set up the individual consciences of men, as the Christian martyrs did of old, against the laws of the land, was denounced as a crime of the deepest dye. The Northern apologists of Slavery still inculcate these sentiments, when a human being is to be returned into Slavery, "under the fugitive slave law." But when the slaves are to be manufactured of freemen in violation of law, their Southern friends cry out for the higher law, or the law of public opinion. It remains to be seen whether the Northern allies of Slavery will change their tune, and justify the infamous verdict of a South Carolina jury, setting aside at once the laws of God and man.

The South has everything to lose, and nothing to gain, by this appeal to public sentiment against law. If the Northern people act upon it, the border slave States will lose their best slaves, while the Gulf States will receive an influx of African barbarism.

New York Evening Post.—The *N. Y. Evening Post*, already one of our largest Republican dailies, has been constrained by the pressure of advertisements to enlarge its dimensions. The proprietors announce that its "prosperity, since the first number was issued, now more than fifty-eight years ago, was never greater than it is at present, nor its prospects for the future more flattering."

The *Post* deserves success. Its consistency, independence, dignity, and ability, give it great weight as an authority and guide in the political world.

The Century, is the name of Mr. McElrath's new paper, lately started in New York. It is handsomely printed in large quarto form, and dedicated to politics, commerce, finance, economy, literature, science, and art. Its tone is elevated, its ability marked, and its principles are in harmony with the Republican movement. It looks solid, respectable, and vital, and with great pleasure we enter it on our list of exchanges.

The National Era.—What with the One Dollar Weeklies, and the thousands of Republican local papers, what with the *Tribune*, the *Century*, the *Independent*, the *New York Ledger*, and other mammoth periodicals issued at the great Commercial Metropolis of the Union, the *National Era* quite naturally has a hard time of it, and we hope its friends will bear in mind that nothing but strenuous exertions on the part of those who appreciate its importance to the Republican cause, can enable it to hold its own against competition so formidable.

Misconception.—The *New York Ledger*, commenting on our article in relation to the morals of advertising, says:

"The *Era*, in addition, has a sneer at 'thrilling' stories. Now, when we state that Dr. Bailey, the editor of the *Era*, is the man who 'brought out' Mrs. Southworth, published her first novelette in his paper, has always, we understand, spoken kindly and encouragingly of her literary efforts, and that the 'thrilling' chapters at which he now sneers are taken from her story of 'The Hidden Hand,' we think our readers will concur with us in the opinion that he is about as *consistent* in one case as he is *fair* in the other."

This is an entire misconception. We intended no sneer at Mrs. Southworth, or any other contributor to the columns of the *Ledger*. Mrs. Southworth is a writer of rare power and wonderful industry; we respect her as highly and regard her with as friendly feelings as when we brought out her first novel.

"The Republicans of Ohio have called a State Convention, to assemble at Columbus on Thursday, the 2d day of June next, to nominate candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Auditor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Supreme Court Judge, Member of the Board of Public Works, and Commissioner of Common Schools. The ratio of representation will be one delegate to each five hundred votes for Judge Peck at the election of 1858, with an additional delegate for each fraction over two hundred and fifty votes. In accordance with this rule, the Convention will be composed of three hundred and sixty-four members."

Judge Piatt, of Cincinnati, is spoken of as candidate for the Lieutenant Governorship. The Judge was formerly a member of the Democratic party, but has since been distinguished by his devotion to the Republican movement. He has a large heart, a fine intellect, and much political experience.

☞ School Troubles in Boston.—Last week, in our Boston correspondence, occurred a paragraph in relation to the School Troubles in Boston, which deserved a word of comment. It is not yet too late. We have not a particle of sympathy with the narrow regulations and intolerant spirit that gave rise to the controversy. If men would but regard the rights of conscience, and act with a little common sense, such collisions might easily be avoided.

We are a Protestant, by education and on deliberate examination, whole-souled and determined, throughout soul, body, and spirit, and therefore we protest against the slightest approach to the invasion of the rights of conscience. If the majority insist upon having the Bible, or appropriate portions of it, read in the opening of the Common School, very well—but why should there be any controversy? Why not recognise the right of any parent, who from conscientious motives is opposed to this usage, to request that his children be permitted to remain out of the school till the exercises have been completed?

If I were a teacher in a Public School, I would rather give up my place, and dig for a livelihood, than be the instrument of compelling a child to read the Bible, or hear it read, in violation of the parent's command.

We point out a very easy method, by which Protestant and Catholic, if both single-hearted, might easily be satisfied—the religious sense of the former satisfied, without the religious sense of the latter being violated.

Beyond all this, we are aware, there is the great question, whether the State ought to undertake the secular education of all its children, confining itself to that. By a large portion of Protestants in England, an answer has been returned in the negative. In this country, Protestants generally, and many Catholics, practically have decided it in the affirmative. But it cannot be denied that the Catholic Church, as a body, deprecates the idea of such education. It is not friendly to our Common School system, and would infinitely prefer not only to confine its own youth to strictly Catholic institutions of learning, but to gather under their influences as many Protestant children as possible. On this question we stand, where we have always stood, by our noble Common School system.

MR. DAVIS.

Woonsocket, *April* 20, 1859.

To the Editor of the National Era:

I see by your paper that you appear to be very anxious for the Black Democracy, as you call them, (and a name very appropriate,) to be beaten in 1860, and you also favor the election of Thomas Davis to Congress from our district in this State; and I suppose that the reason that you want Davis elected is, because he sails under the Republican flag. So he does in part, but he is trying to ride two horses; and they are twins, looking so nearly alike you cannot distinguish the difference—the mis-named Republican horse, and the Black Border Ruffian horse; and to convince you that I am not so prejudiced that I cannot state facts, I send you one of the "Honest Tom" tickets, so that you can see that Republicanism and Border Ruffianism in Rhode Island are twin brothers, and both contemptible humbugs.

Yours, for Robinson every time,

Dexter Clark.

We know Thomas Davis intimately, and can testify to his honesty. The charge that he is attempting to ride two horses should be made, not against him, but against those who persist in their efforts to combine Know Nothingism and Republicanism. Thomas Davis, when in Congress before, acted throughout his term like an honest, a well-informed, practical man. It was no credit to his district that Know Nothingism was strong enough to prevent his reelection. As to the ticket that Mr. Clark sends us, show us the evidence that it was got up at this election by Mr. Davis. We do not believe it can be produced.

We repeat—Rhode Island occupies rather an anomalous position among Republican States, and the sooner she subordinates Old Whiggery and Native Americanism, the better.—*Ed. Era.*

ADDRESS OF THE GERMAN CITIZENS OF TOLEDO, OHIO.

To the People of Massachusetts:

The citizens of Toledo, Ohio, of German birth, have heard with astonishment and indignation that the Legislature of your State has passed an amendment to your Constitution, to the effect that no naturalized citizen shall hereafter have the right to vote in your State until he has resided there two years after receiving his certificate of citizenship. Not questioning the right of your Representatives to legislate on matters pertaining to the welfare of your Commonwealth, we still take the liberty, *as fellow-citizens and as members of the Republican party*, to express our opinion on this subject, now before you for final action.

We hailed with delight the success of the Republican party in Massachusetts, and the election, as your Governor, of the late Speaker of the House of Representatives in Congress, whose elevation to that seat we watched with anxious solicitude. We always considered it a fundamental principle of the Republican party, that all citizens had equal rights before the law, without distinction of color or birth. But this action of your Legislature strikes at the very root of these eternal principles of equality and right. We had never expected that the *Party of the Rights of All Men* would signalize their accession to power in your State by enacting such clauses, discriminating between citizens; and should this measure be approved of by Republicans, and by the silence of their Press, then we, citizens of German descent, will have nothing more to do with such a party—we will never more lend our help to elevate a party to power which tramples us under foot. Nor will we be driven back into the other political organization, whose avowed purpose is the preservation and extension of American Slavery. We can never act with any party that does not recognise the eternal truth of the equality of all men, and equal rights of all citizens; and should none of the existing political parties be able to elevate themselves to this standard, then we shall endeavor to promote and to advocate the formation of one that will stand up to the level of the framers of the Constitution of the United States.

We ask the People of Massachusetts to reject the proposed amendment to their Constitution.

P. Lenk,
Guido Marx,
Geo. Weber,
M. Hoffmann,
Geo. Tanner,
} *Committee.*

This address, forwarded to us for publication, we insert with pleasure. It *is* a fundamental principle of the Republican Party, that all citizens have equal rights before the Law, without distinction of color or birth. It ought to be a sacred Principle with the American People, for it is Justice. If a man born in New York or New Orleans may vote in Massachusetts, after one year's residence therein, for the same reason, no longer residence should be required of a man born in England or Germany, provided he has received his certificate of citizenship. It is unjust and anti-Republican to discriminate between them, making two years residence in one case, only one in the other, a condition to suffrage.

We do not wonder at the feeling manifested by our German fellow-citizens; but let them bear in mind that the Republican Party stands committed, not for, but against, any such discrimination, and the Republican Press generally is in sympathy with its liberal position. Let not the action of Republicans in certain localities give rise to misconceptions of the position of the Party, or drive our naturalized citizens into precipitate measures.

THE DOUGLAS ORGAN.

We have frequently stated inferentially that the Washington *States* is to be regarded as the organ of the Douglas branch of the *Democracy*. The following extract from that journal of Saturday, showing that Judge Douglas is sending out circulars to aid in its circulation, will leave no further doubt about the fact.

From the Washington States of April 22.

THE "HERALD" AND THE "STATES."

We are under obligations to the New York *Herald* for publishing, in a very conspicuous manner, the prospectus of the *States*, accompanied by a few lines, signed by Senator Douglas, to this effect:

"Please make exertions to obtain subscribers to this paper."

The *Herald* at the same time informs its readers that "the body of the circular (two lines) is in the hand-writing of a clerk, but the signature is the autograph of Senator Douglas."

This is correct; for the body of the circular was written by a clerk in the *States* office, and Judge Douglas was one of a number of Senators and members who signed for us such a document, the result of which is, that we are receiving a large number of subscribers from all sections of the country. This morning's mail brought us forty-nine.

The *Herald* will confer a great favor upon us if it will publish conspicuously the recommendations of such other Senators and members as we can furnish, who have requested their friends to "*make exertions to obtain subscribers for the States.*"

After this avowal of the intimate connection which exists between Judge Douglas and the *States*, we feel fully warranted in regarding it as the true exponent of his views upon political questions; and that the *States'* interpretation of "non-intervention," quoted by us last week, is to be taken as identical with that of Senator Douglas.

We therefore again draw attention to the principles laid down by this central Douglas organ, on the 12th instant. That paper says:

"*For our own part, we contend that it is incompetent for the Federal Government, in any form of operation, either by the immediate exertion of its authority, or through the agency of a substitute, to enact an exclusion of Slavery from the common domain.* * * * *But Congress could bestow no authority on the local Legislatures, of which it was not itself possessed; and hence we maintain that a transfer of all its authority does not involve the right to prohibit the introduction and establishment of Slavery in the Territories. This conclusion is in exact accordance with the principle propounded by the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case.* * * *

"We answer at once, *let the courts determine between us and our adversaries.* If the Territorial Legislature attempt to exercise a power in disparagement of Slavery which the South will not admit within its jurisdiction, *any injured party may carry its grievance before the Supreme Court. Is it hazardous to trust that tribunal on the issue?* We answer, leaving out of view its general wisdom and integrity, *the Supreme Court is known to be reliable, from the fact that it happens to have prejudged the very point in dispute.* In the Dred Scott case, it was determined by this august tribunal *that neither Congress nor* a fortiori *the local Legislature, which is the creature of Congress, can prohibit Slavery in the Territories.* Years before this decision, Mr. Calhoun avowed his perfect willingness to remit the rights of Slavery in the Territories to the arbitrament of the Supreme Court. *The result has justified his prophetic sagacity; and we, who are wise after the event, have a positive assurance of safety in leaving Slavery in the Territories to the protection of the courts.* * * *

"*So the South has a moral and constitutional right to insist on the revival of the African slave trade; but the exercise of the right involves issues of policy and physical power, which the wisest statesmen choose not to precipitate upon the country.*"

Here, then, is the end of Judge Douglas's schism. He is now, if possible, sounder than ever. He admits, through his organ, that the Dred Scott case estops the people of the Territories from excluding Slavery, by direct or indirect legislation, and he admits that "the South has a moral and constitutional right to insist on the revival of the African slave trade." On such a platform, Mr. Douglas will go before the Charleston Convention with the most flattering prospects of success; and Governor Wise, whom we had supposed to be ahead of his competitors, should look to his laurels.

Mr. Botts's Letter.—We transfer to our columns an interesting letter from the Hon. John M. Botts, of Virginia, upon the Slavery issues of the day. It is but a reiteration of the sentiments expressed by him in a speech made at Powhatan court-house in 1850. The letter is far from being what we could wish, but it is nevertheless creditable to the manliness of its author. It is honorable to Mr. Botts that, in these days of Virginia's degeneracy and political prostitution, he has the moral courage to stand by the sentiments which he, in common with Henry Clay, entertained nine years ago.

The worst enemy of Mr. Botts cannot deny to him the merit of a bold and courageous adherence to his principles, against a pressure of the popular current which has swept away the moral independence of nearly every public man in the State. For this manly trait, we honor him. It will be seen that Mr. Botts denounces the idea of reviving the slave trade in unmeasured terms; that he disclaims being a friend to Slavery propagandism, and would be glad to see the curse of Slavery removed, from a conviction of its inutility. We rejoice that a prominent politician in Virginia at this day has the independence to maintain these positions.

THE REVIEW.

Alice and Adolphus, or Worlds not Realized, with Proverbs Illustrated, or the Emblem Book; also, Motes in the Sunbeam, and other Parables from Nature; and the Circle of Blessing, and other Parables from Nature; all by Mrs. Alfred Gatty, author of "Aunt Judy's Tales," &c. New York: Robert Carter & Brothers. 1859. For sale by William Ballantyne, Washington D. C.

In these two volumes of Carter's "Fireside Library," each containing two parts, according to the titles above given a new name to us in the authorship of Juvenile Literature meets us. The object of Mrs. Gatty's little books, to quote from a sentence of her preface to the former of these two volumes, "has been rather to lead the young to find interest and pleasure in contemplative thought, than to afford them new facts and information." If not so directly religious in the mode of treatment as is the case with some writers of this class of works, yet these tales, or allegories, as some of them are, are based on the clear principles of the Bible; and the form and style in which great practical truths are presented, illustrated, and enforced, are alike excellent and instructive. There is enough of incident to make the reader interested, and with his sympathies so enlisted, the exhibition of trains of more reflective thought also very naturally slides in and impresses the mind and spirit with a sense of what it is, and what it owes to its God. We hardly know to which of the two volumes to give the preference. The parables are a sort of lengthened fables, each with a moral, introducing animals or trees as speaking and acting, having, too, a counterpart in scenes of human life. The author was led to their composition from a desire to furnish something to Hans Andersen's beautiful Fairy Tales, with a different and higher moral than he has given, and we think she has been successful in so imprinting many a valuable lesson on the memory associated with the "peeps into nature," to which she has awakened the attention.

Expository Thoughts on the Gospels, for Family and Private Use, with the Text Complete, and many Explanatory Notes. By the Rev. J. C. Ryle, B. A., Christ Church, Oxford, Rector of Helmingham, Suffolk, author of "Living or Dead," &c. "Priest, Puritan, and Preacher," &c. St. Luke, Vol. I. New York: Robert Carter & Brothers. 1859. For sale by William Ballantyne, Washington D. C.

We have heretofore characterized the previous volumes of these expositions on the Gospels as valuable for rich, sententious thought, and glowing faith. The present is a continuation of the author's design, and possesses the same general features. The portions embraced in single sections are usually only a few verses, so that each exposition has a unity, and covers, at most, only four or five pages—a convenient amount of reading for use at family prayers or otherwise. Without being critical, the author is evidently acquainted with the best commentators, and yet is independent in expressing his differences of opinion. Short notes are appended, and often a single line or a sentence points to an important fact for the reader's notice. We doubt not this new volume will be as heartily received as were the previous ones.

Sermons Preached and Revised by the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon. Fifth Series New York: Sheldon & Co. 1859.

No one can deny that Mr. Spurgeon's pulpit performances are popular, both among those who attend upon his preaching and others who knew of them only through the medium of the volumes already published. In the Introduction he informs us that "In America, more than 150,000 volumes have been sold; in Australia, two local editions have appeared, besides those which have been exported by the London publishers. A Welsh edition has been issued monthly, and several of the sermons have been translated into Dutch, German, and French, while the English circulation remains undiminished." For our own part, we should give the preference to many other volumes of discourses, in their power to affect our own mind; but we can well conceive that the plain Saxon, homely style, and colloquial illustrations, here employed in the exhibition of Scripture truth, are often greatly adapted to stir up the attention and affect the hearts of many, whom abler logical demonstrations would not reach. Tried by the laws of taste, we may find not a few sentences that could never pass the ordeal of criticism. As earnest appeals to the consciences of wayward man, they possess a power to excite to thought, and, no doubt, have been often crowned with happy results. It is said that their author is about to visit this country. We shall be not a little curious to know if his peculiar style of preaching be as effective among us, where perhaps it is less a novelty, as in his own country. In the mean time, the call for his sermons, evinced in their frequent publication, promises him, when he makes his appearance, a large welcome among numerous admirers.

North American Review. For sale by Franck Taylor, Pennsylvania avenue.

The first article of this number is on "Despotism in India," a subject which is now attracting much attention; then, "Primary Law of Political Development in Civil History," &c. There is also an interesting review of "Palfrey's History of New England," in which great credit is justly given the author for his unwearying research and valuable additions to the colonial history of this country, as well as to the beauty of his style and the justice of his judgments. The North American is an honor to American periodical literature.

The Atlantic Monthly. Boston: Phillips, Sampson, & Co.

The contents of this Magazine for May are as spicy and interesting as usual. The article on the "Gymnasium" and that on the "Utah Expedition" are worthy of most attentive perusal. "A Bundle of Old Letters" takes us back to the "time that tried men's souls," and shows the heroic, self-sacrificing spirit which animated the heroes of the Revolution. The review of Wilson's "History of Mexico" is cutting and severe. See advertisement.

SICKLES TRIAL.

We continue our brief synopsis of the evidence in this trial.

On Wednesday, April 20th, Mr. Wooldridge was examined by the prosecution. No fact of interest was elicited.

"Albert A. Megaffey examined by Mr. Brady. I reside in the city of Washington; I am a contractor; I knew the late Mr. Key; was acquainted with him from January or February, 1858; was tolerably intimate with him; I was a member of the Club up to the time of its dissolution, and met Mr. Key there.

"Ques. Did you at any time have a conversation with Mr. Key in reference to Mrs. Sickles?

"Witness. I did.

"Mr. Carlisle. Stop a moment.

"Mr. Brady. We don't ask the witness to state the conversation. When did the conversation take place?

"Witness. In June, 1858; I had a subsequent conversation on that subject the day or two immediately preceding the Napier ball, which was on the 17th of February; recollect it from something that occurred at the ball between Mr. Key and myself; never had a regular set conversation with him about the matter but these two; but I have referred to it three or four times when I met him.

"Mr. Brady. I desire you to state this conversation.

"District Attorney. We object.

"Mr. Brady. We propose to prove by this witness:

"First. That shortly before the decease of Mr. Key, the witness had noticed certain conduct on his part towards Mrs. Sickles, which led him to suggest to Mr. Key that the latter was observed to be over-attentive to her, in answer to which Mr. Key remarked that he had a great friendship for her, that he considered her a child, and had paternal feelings towards her, and he repelled indignantly the idea of having any but kind and fatherly feeling towards her.

"Second. That at a subsequent conversation in relation to the same subject, the witness suggested to Mr. Key that he might get into danger or difficulty about the matter; Mr. Key laid his hand on the left breast of his coat, and said, 'I am prepared for any emergency.'

"Mr. Ould argued that evidence of these conversations was inadmissible.

"The Court did not perceive how this evidence tended to the establishment of any point involved in the controversy in this case. It seemed that some of the declarations of the deceased were made in last June, and that the last were made on the 17th of February last. How that tended to prove that the deceased was armed on the 27th of February, some ten days later, did not strike the court. Another ground on which it was not admissible was, that it was offered to excuse the conduct of the accused, on the ground that he had a right to suppose the deceased was armed. The Court did not think the question of his being armed on the particular day when this witness conversed with him had anything to do with that either, as it was not proposed to show, nor was there any evidence to show, that the conversation between this witness and Mr. Key had ever been communicated to Mr. Sickles by this witness or any other party.

"The Court could not look upon this evidence as admissible.

"John McDonald was called, and answered substantially as follows: I was footman for Mr. Sickles. On the Thursday preceding Mr Key's death, while Mrs. Sickles was driving in the carriage, we met Mr. Key at the houses of Secretary Brown and Secretary Thompson, and at the flower house on the avenue. At the latter place, Mr. Key leaned into the carriage, and, looking into Mrs. Sickles's face, asked her if she was going to the hop at Willard's. Mrs. Sickles said, 'I am going if Dan will let me.' He got in, and we rode round awhile. I let Mr. Key out in Fifteenth street. I then drove Mrs. Sickles home.

"To Mr. Ould. It was on Thursday, at about four o'clock, that I let Mr. Key out at the corner of Fifteenth street.

"This closed the evidence on the part of the defence.

"Mr. Ould, the District Attorney, said, that inasmuch as the evidence of adulterous intercourse has been admitted, he was prepared to admit the truth of the confession of Mrs. Sickles, and allow it to go before the jury as evidence.

"Considerable discussion here ensued between counsel for the prosecution, disclaiming that they had anything to do with the publication of the confession, and Mr. Brady regretting that it had been published.

"Hon. George H. Pendleton, member of Congress from Ohio, was called by the prosecution in rebuttal. He testified that he, in company with Charles Jones, had visited the house in Fifteenth street after the death of Key, but he had never had any participation in the removal of the lock from the house.

"Several cards, letters, &c., were produced, and identified, but, at the request of the prisoner, the names of the persons on the cards were not made public.

"Before leaving the stand, Mr. Pendleton addressed the Court, and said that any statement that had been made, of his having attempted to defeat the ends of justice, in this case, was infamously false.

"Charles Lee Jones, Esq., testified to accompanying Mr. Pendleton to the house, but he knew nothing at all of the lock having been taken off. The witness was cross-examined by Mr. Brady, and an exciting scene ensued on his being asked if he had not been assisting the prosecution. He said Mr. Key was one of his dearest friends, and he should always revere his memory."

Thursday, Mr. Doyle and other witnesses testified as to the disposition of the papers found on the person of Mr. Key at the time of his death, and particularly as to a letter written in cipher. The evidence seemed not to be very material, and we shall therefore pass it over.

The defence complained that these papers had been in possession of Mr. Carlisle, who assisted the prosecution, when they should have been furnished the prisoner's counsel.

Several witnesses testified as to the condition of Mr. Sickles at the time of and immediately subsequent to the homicide. They differed among themselves; but, for the most part, their evidence tended to show that Mr. S. was perfectly cool and self-possessed. This account differed entirely from that of Governor Walker, Bridget Duffy, Wooldridge, and others, called by the defence.

Mayor Berret was at Sickles's immediately after the homicide. He testifies that "Sickles and Walker went into the parlor, and witness followed, thinking it proper to be present. They remained there some five or ten minutes, and then returned to the library, and, after some conversation, left for the jail. While in the parlor, Sickles discovered Walker, and said, "A thousand thanks to you, my friend, for calling," and spoke of his child and his house being dishonored. He then sat on the sofa, and wept heartily; witness recommended to him to compose himself, and he did so, and we soon after left. This burst of grief lasted four or five minutes—perhaps more. He made a noise indicative of deep grief; can best describe it as a hearty cry, accompanied by sobbing, which could have been heard all over this room. There were no other indications than those that ordinarily accompany a hearty burst of grief. Witness left with them for the jail. No such manifestations were made on the way to the jail. He seemed to be restive and excited on account of the crowd, and witness remarked to him that he had better not observe the crowd. He once or twice passed salutations with persons on the street by the usual gesture. Don't know to whom these salutations were particularly addressed. Left shortly after the examinaton at the jail, which was brief. During this examination, Sickles was composed; witness did not see any exhibition of grief at the jail such as he has described.

"To Mr. Brady. He certainly made a strong effort to become tranquil when witness suggested the importance of it, in view of the crowd through which he had to pass."

In the morning of this day, Judge Crawford stated that he had received a letter directed to Mr. Wilson, one of the jurors, and that, if there was no objection, he would hand it to him. This was assented to on both sides, and the juror was permitted to open and read it. The juror immediately returned the letter to the court, remarking that he had no knowledge of the author, and that it was not proper for him to receive it. The judge then read the letter, and found that it related to the trial going on before the court. He thought that the author should be detected and punished, and proposed to place the letter in the hands of the District Attorney, which was agreed to.

The reporters for the Associated Press say of the letter in cipher, that it has been translated by Mr. Charles Howard, of Baltimore, a brother-in-law of Mr. Key, and that it purports to be a love letter from Mrs. Sickles to Mr. Key. This, however, is a surmise.

Friday, Messrs. John L. Dubrow and Edward Delafield testified that they saw Sickles about the time of the homicide, and thought him rather cool than otherwise, under the circumstances.

"Charles F. Lewis testified: Is connected with the office of the *Congressional Globe*; has with him the manuscript of the speeches made in the House of Representatives on the Friday and Saturday previous to the killing of Key; the reporters were Messrs. Hays, Hincks, now in court, and Messrs. Andrews, and McElhone, who are not here. [Mr. Smith, one of the reporters, was here requested to examine the bundles of copy, and select that of the speeches made by Mr. Sickles on the days named.] Mr. Brady remarked that the defence were here perfectly willing to admit that Mr. S. did make five-minutes speeches on the days named, but at the time these speeches were made he was under the impression that the charges against his wife were untrue."

Mr. Carlisle for the prosecution stated that the evidence on that side was now closed, except two witnesses, who had been called to testify on the point of insanity.

"Judge Crawford decided to wait till to-morrow morning for the missing witnesses, and informed the District Attorney that the Court could not possibly wait longer for them.

"Mr. Brady stated that the counsel on both sides had agreed to furnish each other with their instructions this afternoon. They could thus be examined at leisure, and both parties come into court to-morrow, fully prepared to make very brief arguments. By this mode time would be gained instead of being lost, and the trial brought to a close much sooner than otherwise."

The following are the instructions to the jury prepared by the prosecution:

"If the jury believe, from the whole evidence in this cause, that the prisoner, on the day named in the indictment, and in the county of Washington aforesaid, killed the said Philip Barton Key, by discharging at, against, and into the body of him, the said Philip Barton Key, a pistol or pistols loaded with gunpowder and ball, thereby giving him a mortal wound or wounds, and that such killing was the wilful and intentional act of the prisoner; and that said act was induced by the belief that the said deceased had seduced his, the prisoner's wife, and on some day or days, or for any period, definite or indefinite, prior to the day of such killing, had adulterous intercourse with the said wife; and that the prisoner was not provoked to such killing by any assault or offer of violence, then and there made by the deceased, upon or against him, then such wilful and intentional killing, if found by the jury upon all the facts and circumstances given in evidence, is murder. But such killing cannot be found to have been wilful and intentional, in the sense of this instruction, if it shall have been proven, to the satisfaction of the jury, upon the whole evidence aforesaid, that the prisoner was in fact insane at the time of such killing."

Saturday, Ex-Senator Brodhead, of Pennsylvania, was called as a witness by the prosecution. He testified that he was at Judge Black's when Mr. Sickles arrived there, immediately after killing Key. Sickles was introduced to Mr. Haldeman, who entered into a conversation with him upon Pennsylvania and New York politics. Nothing was said by Sickles in reference to the shooting affair at the time, until the police arrived, when he inquired if the case were bailable; and said that, if the facts were known, "God knows I would be justified," or "I could not help it."

This closed the evidence on the part of the prosecution.

The following are the instructions to the jury prepared by the prisoner's counsel:

"First. There is no presumption of malice in this case, if any proof of 'alleviation, excuse, or justification,' arise out of the evidence for the prosecution. [State *vs.* Johnson, vol. 3, Jones, page 266; McDaniel *vs.* State, vol. 8, Smead's and Marshall's, page 401; Day's Case, 17 of pamphlet.]

"Second. The existence of malice is not presumable in this case, if, on any rational theory consistent with all the evidence, the homicide was either justifiable, excusable, or an act of manslaughter. [Same cases as above cited; United States *vs.* Mingo, vol. 2, Curtis C. C. R. I., Commonwealth *vs.* York; vol. 2, Bennett and Heard, Leading Criminal Cases, page 505.]

"Third. If, on the whole evidence presented by the prosecution, there is any rational hypothesis consistent with the conclusion that the homicide was justifiable or excusable, the defendant cannot be convicted.

"Fourth. If the jury believe that Mr. Sickles, when the homicide occurred, intended to kill Mr. Key, be cannot be convicted of manslaughter.

"Fifth. It is for the jury to determine, under all the circumstances of the case, whether the act charged upon Mr. Sickles is murder or justifiable homicide. [Ryan's Case, 2; Wheeler's Criminal Cases, 54.]

"Sixth. If the jury find that Mr. Sickles killed Mr. Key while the latter was in criminal intercourse with the wife of the former, Mr. Sickles cannot be convicted of either murder or manslaughter.

"Seventh. If, from the whole evidence, the jury believe that Mr. Sickles committed the act, but, at the time of doing so, was under the influence of a diseased mind, and was really unconscious that he was committing a crime, he is not in law guilty of murder. [Day's Case, pamphlet, page 9.]

"Eighth. If the jury believe that, from any predisposing cause, the prisoner's mind was impaired, and at the time of killing Mr. Key he became or was mentally incapable of governing himself in reference to Mr. Key, as the debauchee of his wife, and at the time of his committing said act was, by reason of such cause, unconscious that he was committing a crime as to said Mr. Key, he is not guilty of any offence whatever. [Day's Case, pamphlet, page 17.]

"Ninth. It is for the jury to say what the state of the prisoner's mind as to the capacity to decide upon the criminality of the particular act in question—the homicide—at the moment it occurred, and what was the condition of the parties, respectively, as to being armed or not, at the same moment.

"These are open questions for the jury, as are any other questions that may arise upon the consideration of the evidence, the whole of which is to be taken in view by the jury. [Jarboe's Case, pamphlet, page 20.]

"Tenth. The law does not require that the insanity which absolves from crime should exist for any definite period, but only that it exist at the moment when the act occurred with which the accused stands charged.

"Eleventh. If the jury have any doubt as to the case, either in reference to the homicide or the question of sanity, Mr. Sickles should be acquitted."

Monday—occupied in argument by counsel.

Mr. Sickles Acquitted.—We are gratified to announce that Mr. Sickles has been acquitted. The jury remained out but half an hour, and when the verdict was announced, the sympathies of the large audience burst forth in shouts of applause. Mr. Sickles came out accompanied by his friends, and was received by the dense throng with renewed applause. He immediately got into his carriage and drove to his house, followed by the excited crowd.

WASHINGTON ITEMS.

NICARAGUA.—Ion, the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore *Sun* says:

"The Cass-Yrissarri treaty, so called, is no longer in existence. It is superseded by the Lamar treaty, which embraces the substantial provisions of the former treaty. As a whole, it is acceptable to this Government, though an exception has been taken to one clause, and one which is not very important. The President hesitates to agree to this provision, and probably will send the treaty back; but it is believed that the Nicaraguan Government will, as it has yielded so much, yield this point also. Perhaps it would be prudent to retain the treaty, rather than hazard another tedious and uncertain negotiation.

"The treaty provides—1st, that the transit route shall be kept open by Nicaragua; 2d, that if Nicaragua be unable to keep the route open, and protect commerce, and travel thereon, she may call upon the United States for aid, in which case the forces of the United States shall retire as soon as the object is effected; and that, in case Nicaragua shall neglect to afford protection, or to call upon the United States to do it, the United States Government may, if in its judgment it be necessary, at any time, land armed forces for the protection of the transit. Thus the treaty, as it stands, will enable the United States to protect the transit against Nicaraguan authorities and insurgents, as well as against filibusters.

"The exception is to the amendment which in substance provides that the United States shall engage to use due vigilance and all lawful means to prevent the organization of hostile parties in this country, intended for the invasion of Nicaragua."

The objection made by the Administration to this amendment offered by the Nicaraguan Government is utterly unwarranted. Nothing could be more reasonable than this demand upon the American Government, of protection against filibustering inroads. The Government of Nicaragua is weak, and almost defenceless. It has been called upon by this Government, and almost forced into a treaty conceding the right of way across its territories; and the refusal of the American Government to accede to the reasonable request of the Nicaraguans will demonstrate to all the world that the Administration is not acting in good faith—that while professing friendly and pacific sentiments towards Nicaragua, it is in reality indifferent to its welfare, if not ready to connive at the inroads of the cut-throats and robbers who style themselves filibusters.

DOUGLASISM.—The Washington *States*, the organ of the Douglas faction, has the following:

"We believe the great body of well-meaning people in the South are averse to the revival of the slave trade; but of these, no inconsiderable proportion may be driven to a change of policy by the aggressions of the Abolitionists. For it is not any repugnance to the extension of Slavery, nor any idea of injury to the negro, but mainly a patriotic regard for the compromises of the Constitution and the repose of the Union, which determines the majority of persons in the South to oppose the agitation for the repeal of the anti-slave-trade enactments. When, however, it is discovered that the North will not observe the obligations and guaranties of the common compact, no wonder the least ultra and adventurous people in the South should be willing to concert measures for the promotion of their interests, without regard to the restrictions of a violated and abused Constitution. We are not surprised at the persistent defiance of the laws against the slave trade, which is now attracting the attention of the country towards the remoter Southern States. *Nay, we believe the traffic will be re-established, despite Federal resistance. The Abolitionists will have themselves only to blame for the result.*"

A few days ago, the *States* went a step further, and insisted that "*The South has a moral and constitutional right to insist on the revival of the African slave trade.*"

It is very clear that, with Mr. Douglas in the Presidential chair, standing on this platform of his organ, the laws against the slave trade would not be enforced; and it is not at all improbable that his non-intervention principles would prompt him to recommend their repeal.

In regard to the Nicaragua treaty, *Ion*, the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore *Sun*, further remarks:

"It may well be believed that the objection to the Nicaragua treaty is one that can easily be removed. The President will not communicate the treaty to the Senate with a clause so objectionable that it would probably defeat the treaty in that body, or at least expose the Administration to very bitter reproaches from some of the Senators.

"The treaty will no doubt be sent back to Nicaragua, with objections to the clause which binds the United States Government to enforce in a more strict manner the neutrality laws, and suppress filibusterism. The provision would be as useless as it is offensive. It is hoped that the Nicaraguan Government will recede from this position, and suffer the treaty, which is so satisfactory in other respects, to be ratified."

Ion, the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore *Sun*, says:

"The people of Kansas, by an inconsiderable number of votes, and in fact by the vote of a small minority of the whole number of legal voters in the Territory, authorized the call of a Convention to form a State Constitution. Not more than one in five of the voters took the trouble to go to the polls on that momentous question. The people, being no longer subject to the influence of the Anti-Slavery agitators, were far from being very desirous of taking upon themselves the burden of supporting a State Government."

It is remarkable that the four-fifths of the people of Kansas who were so averse to taking upon themselves the burdens of a State Government, refrained from going to the polls and voting against the call of a Convention. The truth is, that the fact that nine-tenths of the people were in favor of a Convention, made it perfectly certain that the measure would be carried, and hence the small vote.

SOUR GRAPES.—The same correspondent, *Ion*, speaking of the probable exclusion of Slavery from Kansas, says:

"There was never the least ground for the supposition that the Territory was adapted to the employment of slave labor, and it will, ere long, be found that it is not adapted to any other kind of labor. Excepting the margins of water-courses, the Territory is barren, and utterly incapable of supporting a population, white or black, free or slave."

After the herculean efforts made by the propagandists to carry Slavery into Kansas, and their disgraceful failure, it may be some consolation to be informed that the country is utterly uninhabitable.

FRUIT GARDEN, MARION CO., OREGON,
February 28, 1859.

To the Editor of the National Era:

Enclosed, please find one dollar and fifty cents, in stamps, for one copy of the *Era* one year, for J. Q. Adams, post office address, Salem, Marion Co., Oregon.

The *Era* is the most welcome visiter of anything of the kind I am acquainted with. If it can succeed in maintaining the integrity of the Republican party, prevent it from engaging in any entangling alliances for the purpose of getting into power, it will deserve (as it always has had) the confidence and support of a large portion of the lovers of Freedom. I like the tone of the *Era*, and hope it will never turn to the left or right, but will continue to advocate genuine Republicanism without alloy. We then may expect to permanently succeed. Truth will conquer all obstacles.

Yours, for Liberty, G. C.

ROLLERSVILLE, OHIO, *March* 13, 1859.

To the Editor of the National Era:

My opinion is, that if Republicans generally would make an effort in favor of the *Era*, your subscription list would reach 40,000 very soon. The Democrats merit the victories they gain. They are ever up and doing; every man is a self-constituted committee; and at elections, every man that is out of the grave, and capable of holding a ticket, is brought to the polls. On the other hand, if there happens to be a little rain, or any other trivial obstacle presents itself, Republicans stay at home. William Cobbett used to say, that "an Englishman's brains are found through his belly;" that is, in times of prosperity, men are careless about their rights, so that their animal wants are supplied at present. This will apply to some parts of Ohio.

T. B.

POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE.

Mr. Forsyth, of Ga., lately the United States Minister to Mexico has been invited to partake of a public dinner at Augusta, in that State. In his letter declining the honor, he complains that while the President and Secretary of State gave their official approbation to his diplomacy in Mexico, they at the same time recalled him. He thinks that his extreme devotion to Southern interests was the cause of his recall. It is certainly a hard case, that a Southern diplomat should be required to represent the whole country abroad, instead of his own section; and we are loth to believe that this Administration would ever think of imposing such a condition upon its representatives at foreign Courts.

Mr. Forsyth flatters himself that if his treaty had been ratified, Mexico would never have been cursed with the misrule of Zuloaga, and that "we should have been now far advanced on the road of commercial intercourse, influence, and Americanization."

THE "OPPOSITION" IN KENTUCKY.—The "Opposition" party in Kentucky has outbid the "Democracy" for the support of the slave interest. The "Opposition" candidate for Governor, Mr. Bell, insists that Congress is bound to protect Slavery in the Territories. The Louisville *Journal*, which has hitherto taken a rather liberal view of politics, now advocates this ultra Pro-Slavery position. It affected a great deal of horror at the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, which excluded Slavery; and now it goes to the opposite extreme of insisting upon the establishment of Slavery.

The "Democratic" candidate for Governor, Magoffin, it is said, takes the position of Mr. Douglas, as qualified by the Dred Scott decision.

We trust that the Opposition, thus debased and prostituted, in Kentucky, will be utterly annihilated.

A CARD FROM MR. BOTTS.

RICHMOND, *April* 18, 1859.

To the Editor of the Whig:

I have recently received many letters from different parts of the State, asking for a copy of my Powhatan speech, delivered in 1850, which it is impossible for me to furnish, as I have only some half dozen copies left. As the best means of supplying the information so earnestly sought by those friends who are anxious to ascertain *what horrible sentiments I uttered on the subject of Slavery*, which have been recently to a great extent substituted for the "free negro" misrepresentation, I have concluded to publish, for the benefit of the Imposition party in particular, everything in that speech that relates to the question of Slavery; garbled extracts of which have already appeared in a small portion of the press of that party—many of them, seeming to think there was no great amount of capital to be made out of it, have declined to notice it. The following is the portion objected to. I said:

"There are, sir, two parties in our country, distinct from all the rest, of whom I wish to say a word. The one in the North, called 'Abolitionists,' and the other, in the South, known as 'Disunionists.' I am not sure for which of the two parties I have the least sympathy or respect; and I am not sure to which attaches the largest share of the responsibility for the chief difficulties with which the nation has been lately afflicted.

"The Abolitionists seem to estimate the value of this Union (and to hold as a condition and a price for its continuance) by the *abolition of African Slavery*. While the ultra men of the South, or Disunionists, seem to regard the *perpetuation* and *extension* of Slavery as the chief bond that can hold them and the Union together. For neither of these parties have I any sympathy. I hold to the Union for far different, and, I trust, higher and nobler purposes. It is for the *perpetuation of American Freedom*, rather than the *abolition* or *perpetuation of African Slavery*. I am one of those who think Slavery, in the abstract, is much to be deprecated; and whilst I think that, as at present organized in the Southern States, it is a humanizing, civilizing, and christianizing institution, as must all agree who will take the pains to compare the present condition of our slaves with the original African race, yet I regard it as a great calamity that it should have been entailed upon us; and I should look upon that man as the first and greatest benefactor to his country, whose wisdom could point out to us some practical and satisfactory means by which we could, through our own instrumentality, and without interference from our neighbors, provide for the ultimate emancipation and removal of all the slaves in the country. I speak of this as a desirable thing, especially to the owners of slaves, who, I think, are the chief sufferers, but at the same time I fear it is perfectly Utopian to attempt it; but I have seen too much difference between the enterprise, the industry, and the prosperity of the free and the slave States, to doubt the advantage we would derive from it if it could be accomplished."

Now, there it is; let them make the most of it. I will add, that I said it all at mature age, after full and careful deliberation, honestly believing and thinking all that it contains. I have seen no reason for *modification*, *recantation*, or *equivocation*. What I thought and said then, I think and repeat now, *in the most emphatic terms*; and hold, that he who objects to the sentiments conveyed, to be consistent, must not only be in favor of reopening the African slave trade at this time, but must take the position, that if no such thing as Slavery had ever been known to or introduced amongst us, he would now favor its introduction for the first time; for if its original introduction is not to be deprecated, but justified and approved, why would he not advocate a traffic that holds so high a place in his judgment and regard? I do not know how many there are in this State, or in the South, who set themselves up as advocates of this revolting trade, nor do I care; I have only to say, that I am not one of them, and that, as a *humanized*, *civilized*, and *christianized*, member of the community, I should be utterly *ashamed* of myself, if I could *entertain* any other opinions than those I have expressed; and I should deserve the scorn of all men, if I could permit any condition of the public mind to induce me so far to *debase* myself as to render me capable of expressing any other, for the purpose of catering to a morbid, vitiated, and corrupt taste, or to an affected and artificial sentimentality on the subject of Slavery. These were then, and are now, my honest convictions, and I think all who have participated in the clamor that has been attempted to be gotten up, for the opportunity afforded me of proclaiming them from the house tops, to the *humanized*, *civilized*, and *christianized* world; and I hope the Imposition press, throughout the State, will publish them, and that their candidates for Gubernatorial and subordinate honors may read this my last declaration on the subject, wherever they may speak.

In another part of that speech I said;

"What I would ask and *demand* of the North is, that they shall not interfere with Slavery as it exists under the Constitution; that they shall not touch the question of the slave trade between the States; that they shall carry out the true intent and meaning of the Constitution in reference to the restitution of fugitive slaves. These are the *true issues* between the North and the South; and I would go as far as he who goes farthest in exacting them, 'at all hazards, and to the last extremity.' And what I would ask of the South is, not to suffer itself to be led off, without due consideration, upon false issues, presented by intemperate or overzealous politicians, many of whom delight in, and live upon, agitation and excitement, and many more, perhaps, who owe their ephemeral fame and position to a *pretended, exclusive championship for Southern rights.* Southern honor does not depend upon making unreasonable and untenable demands. The interference *with*, or abolition *of* Slavery, where it exists, is one thing; the extension of it, where it does not exist, is a very different thing! Let us claim no more than we are entitled to under the Constitution; and then, what we do claim, let us stand by, like men who 'know their rights, and, knowing, dare maintain them.'"

I have seen no reason to recant what I said here, either; these are the sentiments I now entertain, as I did when they were delivered before the people of Powhatan. What fault do they find with this? Do they endorse it or repudiate it? If they endorse it, even-handed justice requires them to say so. If they condemn it, justice to themselves, as they are resolved to make war on me, requires that they should point out wherein they differ from me.

In this connection it may be proper to add, for the information of all who feel an interest in my record, one short paragraph from my African Church speech, in 1856, relating to the same subject; and from the several extracts herewith furnished, I think few will have any difficulty in ascertaining my position on the Slavery question. Here is the extract referred to:

"My position on the question of Slavery is this; and, so far from wishing to conceal it, I desire it should be known to all. Muzzles were made for dogs, and not for men; and no press and no party can put a muzzle on my mouth, so long as I value my freedom. I make bold, then, to proclaim that I am no Slavery propagandist. I will resort to all proper remedies to protect and defend Slavery where it exists, but I will neither assist in nor encourage any attempt to force it upon a reluctant people anywhere, and still less will I justify the use of the military power of the country to establish it in any of the Territories. If it finds its way there by legitimate means, it is all well; but never by force, through any instrumentality of mine. I am myself a slaveholder, and all the property my children have in the world is slave property, inherited from their mother; and he who undertakes to connect my name, or my opinions, with Abolitionism, is either a knave or a fool, and not unfrequently both. And this is the only answer I have to make to them. I have not connected myself with any sectional party or sectional question; and so help me God, I never will."

Is there any other portion of my record wanted, gentlemen? If so, let it be called for, and it shall be promptly supplied.

Respectfully, JOHN M. BOTTS.

CANTON CORRESPONDENCE.

Havoc in Canton—Waste of Life—Trade in Opium.

CANTON, CHINA, *Feb.*, 1859.

To the Editor of the National Era:

On resuming my correspondence with your paper, allow me to congratulate you and all your readers on the encouraging news which the last numbers (those for November) brought me. I refer to the elections for Congressmen which have resulted in the success of so many who favor the cause of Freedom and of our country. Although separated by half the circumference of the globe from my native land, and never expecting to visit its shores again, yet I am not an uninterested spectator of the struggle which is now going on, and which can only be terminated by the success of Slavery or of Freedom. That the principles of Freedom and Justice will finally have universal sway in the councils of our nation, I have not the least doubt, and it is with a deep and hopeful interest I watch the contest from this distant standpoint.

The city of Canton, as you know, has been the theatre of war for two years. The sad effects of this dreadful curse are visible in many parts of it. There are acres of ruins, desolate and deserted, with brick walls and pillars still standing in places, to show that man's habitation had been there. At the gates of the city, and traversing the streets, may be seen the British red coats and marines, armed with sword and bayonet, which shows that the city is still in the hands of its conquerors. In some of the streets, crowds of busy men are passing to and fro, and the shops display their wares to attract purchasers. But there are still many shops closed, and some of the streets are not frequented by the accustomed throngs. Confidence is not yet fully restored, although peace has been proclaimed for several months.

The dreadful sufferings that have befallen the inhabitants of this city are beyond conception. For two years, multitudes of the people have been driven from their homes, deprived of their usual means of support, and thousands of them reduced to beggary and want. Starvation has claimed many victims. If all the facts could be known, how would humanity weep! Who can conceive of the terrible anxiety of those thirty hours of bombardment on the 29th and 30th of December, 1857! One hundred and fifty cannon threw shot and shell indiscriminately over the city—literally, showers of iron hail. The house I live in and all around it bear marks of the destructive effects of cannon balls and exploding shells. How many were slain cannot be ascertained, but some facts are known which almost chill the blood in one's heart. I was informed, by the chaplain of the English army, that shortly after the bombardment, he visited an asylum for infants in the eastern suburbs. To his great consternation, he found the dead bodies of over four hundred infants. The nurses had been frightened by the awful and unceasing roar of the cannonading, and had fled in dismay, leaving the children to perish from hunger and cold.

After getting possession of the city, the Chinese were in the habit of cutting off straggling soldiers, when there was an opportunity. To punish this, the English destroyed the houses on the spot where the deed was committed. But the French resorted to a more effectual method. One of their soldiers was beheaded in the southern suburbs. When it was found out, a detachment of men proceeded to the street where the deed was committed, and put to the sword every man found in it. About forty men were slain, and it is almost certain that no one concerned in killing the Frenchman was among those put to death.

Although the war is over, and new treaties have been made, I doubt much whether enough has been gained to justify the infliction of so much suffering on so many of our fellow-beings. The treaties look very well on paper, but those who mark the fact that they have been forced from an unwilling people at the cannon's mouth, and those who know the character of a heathen people, will have but little hope of the stipulations being faithfully executed, except in the presence of the power that compelled them to be yielded.

One of the results of the war, and one which seems to have been very near the heart of Lord Elgin, the English Ambassador, was the legalization of the opium trade. Several millions of dollars worth of opium are annually imported into China, and Lord Elgin was moved with compassion to see his countrymen engaged in so extensive and profitable a business when it was stigmatized as illegal. He therefore took upon himself the duty of removing the stigma from his countrymen, and does it by the easy and quick process of legalizing the trade in opium, and fixing a duty on the imported drug.

The smuggling of opium has not been confined to subjects of the English Crown. I am sorry to say that I have seen the American flag flying at the mast-head of ships used for storing opium, and steamers bearing that flag constantly carry it up and down the river. It is well known what desperate efforts have been made by the Chinese to prevent the sale and use of the poison. The severest punishments were inflicted on those who prepared and sold it, and those found smoking it had their lips cut off, so as to render it impossible to continue the practice. After the first war between England and China, commonly called the "opium" war, the efforts of the native officials were unsuccessful, and many of themselves became addicted to the use of the drug, and they have been easily bribed to connive at its introduction, and there has been a constant increase until the amount annually smuggled into the country and consumed by the miserable victims is more than enough to pay for all the tea sent to England.

A great deal is said about the recent war having opened China to the commerce and civilization of the Western world, and made a clear path for the missionaries of the Christian religion to go everywhere, preaching the glad tidings of the kingdom. Much good doubtless may result, and mutual advantage flow from the new regulations, but it should not be forgotten that the nefarious traffic in opium has received the sanction of law, and honorable men may engage in selling the poison to the Chinese, without incurring the stain on their characters which seemed to weigh so heavily on the mind and heart of H. M. Minister Plenipotentiary. The voice of Christendom has been uttered as to the crying evil of the compulsory cultivation of the poppy in British India; and, if I mistake not, all good men will condemn the effort made by the representative of a great Christian nation, to shield under the cover of law a traffic which carries in its train an untold amount of suffering, misery, poverty, and death.

The attention of Western nations has been drawn to the Celestial Empire by the recent events which have occurred there, and everything tending to add to the knowledge of the country and its inhabitants will doubtless be received with interest by your readers.

The social condition, habits, and customs, of the people, industrial pursuits, laws and government, and religion, afford themes upon which volumes might be written. Occasional notes on some of these subjects will from time to time be furnished for your paper. K.

FOREIGN SUMMARY.

ONE WEEK LATER FROM EUROPE—WAR APPARENTLY INEVITABLE.—The Royal mail steamship Arabia, Captain Stone, from Liverpool at one o'clock on the afternoon of the 9th instant, arrived at Halifax at ten o'clock on the morning of Wednesday, the 20th instant.

The English Cabinet has decided to dissolve Parliament, and appeal to the country, rather than resign. Lord Derby announced the fact in the House of Lords on the 4th, and in his remarks severely attacked Lord John Russell's course, and characterized Lord Palmerston's recommendation that Russell's amendment be accepted by Ministers, as a direct insult. He rejoiced at the generous support his Government had received, and expressed the conviction that there was no cohesion in the Opposition, and that it would be dissolved the next moment by the conflicting opinions of its various sections. The Cabinet had resolved to dissolve Parliament as soon as the public business permitted, both because they thought the country ought to be consulted at the present crisis, and because the interests of peace would suffer from a change of Administration.

Mr. Disraeli made a corresponding announcement in the Commons.

Parliament proceeded with its usual business, and no date had been fixed for the dissolution, although it was expected to take place before Easter.

Continental affairs had undergone no change. It was reported that Austria will demand that Piedmont should disarm before the opening of the Congress. Military movements continued.

The sedition trials at Belfast resulted in the disagreement and discharge of the jury.

Great Britain.—In the House of Commons, on the 6th, Lord Palmerston defended himself from the imputations cast on him by Ministers, and criticised Lord Derby's course.

Sir J. Pakington replied, and reiterated the assertion that Lord Palmerston had made the direct threat, that if the Crown exercised its right to dissolve Parliament, the House might refuse the supplies.

Other speeches were also made on the subject.

On the 8th, in the House of Lords, Lord Malmesbury said that he hoped to be able to make a statement to the House before the prorogation, which would show that the Government had done all it could to preserve the peace of Europe.

Mr. Beamish asked the Secretary of the Treasury whether, Sir Samuel Cunard having offered, through a deputation which waited on the Admiralty and Treasury Departments, to convey the mails weekly between an Irish port and America for the sum of £500 the voyage, out and home, it was the intention of the Government to persevere in completing the contract for £3,000 for service fortnightly between Galway and America? He demanded on the part of the public that this offer should be duly considered.

Sir S. Northcote said that the offer of Mr. Cunard was to call at Cork on the way from Liverpool to America, and on the return, for £500.

No date has been fixed for the dissolution of Parliament. The candidates were flooding the country with addresses to their constituents. Lord Palmerston, in his address, asserts that the simple question at issue is the merits of the Government reform bill. He deprecates the action of Ministers in dissolving Parliament at this critical juncture in European affairs.

The *Times* comments upon the remarkable omission in the addresses of Lord Palmerston, Lord John Russell, and Mr. Disraeli, of the subject upon which the whole contest begun, that of the future Reform bill, and says the great popular cry has become a taunt, and not a boast.

Belfast, April 2.—The trial of the members of the Phœnix Society resulted like the first, in a disagreement and discharge of the jury. The prisoners were held over till next Assizes, on renewing their bail.

The stock market was quiet and steady on the 6th and 7th, but on the 8th was weaker and lower.

The *Daily News* city article, dated Friday evening, says:

"A general heaviness prevailed to-day, especially this afternoon; a fresh fall on the Paris Bourse, and the unsatisfactory character of political advices from the continent, and the anticipation of the Indian and Russian loans, as well as the unfavorable bank returns, combined, created an unfavorable feeling."

The funds presented a further decline of ⅛ @ ¼ per cent. The discount market was active at the minimum rate of 2½ per cent. The Austrian exchanges have again risen, owing to the prevailing distrust.

The *Times* city article of last evening says:

"The funds opened at comparatively steady prices, but closed heavily and lower, under dull accounts from Paris."

France.—The movement of troops and war material in France continues on a large scale.

The Paris correspondent of the London *Herald* says that about 25,000 men are on their way to reinforce the army at Lyons.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* writes that the question of peace or war is still left to conjecture. Piedmont manifests no intention of disarming, while Austria insists upon this step as a preliminary condition to the Congress.

The feeling that war is inevitable prevails at the French Foreign Office, and is shared by some of the highest functionaries.

The *Daily News* correspondent says orders have been sent to Toulon, that sixty-eight vessels, which have been long preparing there, should be ready to put to sea upon a day's notice, if required. Eight vessels have also been ordered at once from Brest for Toulon.

Austria.—An analysis is published of Count Buol's reply to the Russian proposal for the Congress. He declares the whole difficulty is to be found in the policy of Piedmont, and regards the Congress as the means of putting an end to the danger with which she threatens Europe. He adds, should other questions be mooted, they ought to be stated beforehand, and that the clash of arms should not accompany negotiations. Piedmont will disarm; Austria will do so likewise. Until the preliminaries are settled, Austria may relax, but will not suspend operations—her troops will continue to march towards Italy.

Vienna, Tuesday Evening.—The Vienna correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs as follows:

"The long-expected crisis is at hand. A corps of 50,000 men goes from the city to Italy to-morrow, and on the following day another corps of 60,000 men is to be assembled here. A reserve corps of 70,000 men will be placed in Bohemia and Moravia. The reserve of the army in Italy and of the corps about to leave this city has been called in."

Italy.—The correspondent of the *Times* at Rome says that the general opinion there is, that the Congress will simply delay war, but cannot prevent it, because it will not effectually settle the Italian question.

It is confidently stated that neither the Papal Government nor the King of Naples will send representatives to the Congress.

The *Independance Belge* says that the King of Naples is rapidly sinking. Other accounts represent him as better, but not out of danger. The latest telegram says five of his physicians have declared him incurable.

The Papal Government is preparing an official note relative to the proposed Congress, to be addressed to the great Powers.

Portugal.—The Government has authorized the free admission of Indian corn.

India.—The Bombay mail of March 12th reached England on the 12th of April. The news is anticipated by telegraph.

Tantia Topee and other leading rebels were hiding under false names.

Freights to England had slightly advanced.

The soundings taken by the steamer Cyclops, in the Red Sea, for the Indian telegraph, had been perfectly successful.

By way of Russia, it is reported that a famine was prevailing in the southern part of China.

Australia.—Australian papers and correspondence from Melbourne to February 14 are received, but add little of importance to previous telegrams.

New gold fields of fair promise had been discovered near Melbourne.

There was much activity in the shipment of gold. Over a million of sterling was *en route* to England.

FOUR DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.—THE QUESTION OF WAR AND PEACE STILL UNCERTAIN.—*New York, April* 25.—The steamer City of Washington arrived here this evening from Liverpool, with dates to the 13th inst.

The steamers Asia and Borussia have arrived out.

The steamer Prince Albert has put back to Galway, leaking.

The war rumors had been very alarming up to the 11th inst., so much so that war was generally considered inevitable, and much depression prevailed until Monday, when reassuring rumors were current, and announcements were made that concessions by Austria, in the preliminary conditions regulating the proposed Congress, gave renewed hopes that the deliberations of that assembly would have a salutary result, which circumstance caused a considerable recovery in the funds at London and on the continent.

Austria has proposed, and the other Powers are said to have consented, to a simultaneous disarming before the Congress meets.

The armaments, however, still continued.

The English Ministers had been pressed in Parliament to give a statement touching the position of European affairs, and they promised to do so on the 15th, (Friday.)

Parliament would probably be dissolved in about a week. Electioneering was actively progressing for the selection of a new Parliament.

The House of Commons had rejected a resolution in favor of voting by ballot by three majority.

The *Moniteur* publishes another official article to conciliate the German Powers. France repudiates the idea of interfering with their independence.

Various warlike rumors continued to circulate from Paris, but the bourse was more buoyant on the 12th, when three per cents closed at 68f.

Sardinia has sent the Marquis D'Azeglio on a special mission to London.

The Vienna advices had been very warlike, but slightly moderated toward the middle of the week.

The Austrian troops in Lombardy continue to advance and threaten the Piedmont frontiers.

The Calcutta mails of March 9th had reached London. The Hong Kong advices were to February 25th. The Indian Government had imposed an increased duty on imports, which continued depressed.

The new Indian loan of seven millions sterling had been formally introduced in the London market. The loan is for seven years, secured on 4 per cent. debentures. The London *News* intimates the probability of a supplemental loan of £5,000,000.

London, April 13.—A dispatch from Paris says that England will propose the question of a general disarmament to the plenipotentiaries.

The *Times* says that the pacific advices from Paris produced very little effect on the English funds on Friday, and that the public do not believe that Napoleon intends to promote a pacific adjustment on a basis that shall clearly recognise the treaty rights of Austria, and consequently such as can be accepted by that Power, while it will utterly disappoint Sardinia.

If an arrangement were patched up to-morrow, with the existing feelings between France, Austria, Sardinia, and Russia, left in play, the prospects of repose for Europe would not be in the slightest degree better this moment.

There was yesterday a further unfavorable movement in Austrian rates of exchange.

The correspondent of the *Herald* says that, notwithstanding pacific assurances, warlike preparations continue in France on a tremendous scale. Troops are pouring into Lyons from all points. The *Patrie*, which is the organ of Napoleon's private cabinet, speaks of a last and supreme effort which England and Prussia are making in behalf of peace. Referring to the Austrian proposition for a general disarmament, the *Patrie* asserts that France is still on the peace footing. She has collected no army on her frontier, and has not applied to the Legislature for war credits, while Austria, having increased her army in Italy to one hundred thousand men, might commence a campaign to-morrow.

The *Patrie* concludes with a *threat*, saying, "If Austria means that a general disarmament is to result in the maintenance of *statu quo* in Italy, and not in a resolving of the imperious difficulties of the present situation of affairs, it must not be expected that France will be duped by such a demand."

A letter from Munich states that the cavalry and infantry of the Bavarian army are to be placed on a war footing, and, before the end of the month, all Germany will be in arms.

Later news has been received from China. The news is not important. The supplies of tea were failing.

Cotton in England is dull. No change in breadstuffs, provisions, &c.

FURTHER FROM PARAGUAY—HONORS TO THE AMERICANS.—The New York papers have some very interesting letters from Paraguay. The officers of the American expedition seem to have created a most favorable impression. The *Times* says:

"During their stay, the officers of the fleet were in daily communication with the people on shore, from the Governor down, and there was constantly manifested towards them the kindest feelings by every one. Indeed, says Capt. Faunce, of the Harriet Lane, it was the common remark that they liked the Americans better than either the English or French who had visited their country, and expressed much surprise at finding the Americans so different from what they had been taught to regard them. On the 12th of March, the authorities of Corrientes gave a splendid ball, which was attended by all the officers of the fleet. At Rosario the fleet assembled on the 22d of February, where they celebrated Washington's birthday by salutes, and by dressing their ships with flags.

"As a token of parting regard, Gen. Urquiza, the Argentine President, transmitted to Commodore Shubrick a superb and valuable sword, hitherto worn on State occasions, as well as in service, by himself. Gen. Urquiza also gave a magnificent entertainment to Judge Bowlin. A large number of American naval officers were present."

DOMESTIC SUMMARY.

FROM CALIFORNIA BY THE OVERLAND MAIL. *St. Louis, April* 20.—The overland advices from California to the 28th ult. state that the House of Representatives of that State had passed a bill to divide the State. Also, a bill calling a convention of delegates from California, Oregon, and Washington, to consider a plan for the construction of a railroad from the Pacific coast to the Atlantic States.

The passengers by the mail coach report the massacre of a family of nine persons by the Caddo Indians, in the vicinity of Cooper's Camp, Texas.

Business at San Francisco was very dull. The markets were generally unchanged.

Arrived—Ship Ocean Pearl, from Baltimore.

LATER FROM CALIFORNIA—DREADFUL STEAMBOAT ACCIDENT, &c.—*New Orleans, April* 21.—The steamship Coatzacoalcos, of the Louisiana and Tehuantepec line, arrived here this morning, after a remarkably short passage, bringing advices to the 5th instant, from San Francisco, which is eight days later than those previously received.

The steamship John L. Stephens, brought down over $2,000,000 in gold, which is on its way to New York.

A terrible accident had happened to one of the ferry boats at San Francisco on the 3d instant, which caused much excitement at the time in the city. Six persons were instantly killed, and between twenty and thirty wounded, some dangerously.

The mining prospects for the spring are very encouraging, and on the subsidence of the waters a large yield is anticipated.

Trade at San Francisco continued dull, and most descriptions of goods had declined, but still there was a fair prospect for an unusually large spring business.

The Vanderbilt line of steamships, which was temporarily withdrawn, have again resumed operations.

Oregon.—The news of the admission of Oregon as a State into the Union had caused little or no excitement. The State Government has not yet been formed, but active measures were in progress to that end.

Fraser River.—Quite a number of parties are being made up at San Francisco and a number of the interior towns, for the upper Fraser River diggings, and the emigration to that point continues unabated.

Tahiti—Peace Declared.—By an arrival at San Francisco, dates from Tahiti to the 6th of March had been received. The long-standing difficulties with the French had been amicably adjusted by the French Government. Queen Pomare had declared that peace had been made.

San Francisco Markets, April 5.—Money was still in great request, and the exports of specie were very heavy. The large number of arrivals have completely glutted the market with almost every description of goods, and a decline had taken place in boots, shoes, provisions, and malt liquors; raw sugars had also declined, but the market on the 4th closed firm.

The stock of malt liquors on hand is very heavy, and accumulating by every arrival from the States.

Money is tight at 2 @ 2½ per cent. a month.

LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.—*New York, April* 25.—The steamer St. Louis, from Aspinwall, arrived here this evening, bringing the California mails of the 5th instant, 550 passengers, and $1,723,000 in treasure. The trip has been made in a little over twenty days.

The United States ships Oronoke and Jamestown and steamship Relief were at Aspinwall, all well, when the St. Louis left.

The principal consignees on the specie list were as follows:

Wells, Fargo, & Co., $360,000; American Exchange Bank, $210,000; Wm. Helle & Co., $110,000; W. T. Coleman & Co., $77,000; Duncan, Sherman, & Co., $118,000; Freeman & Co., $74,000: Wm. Hoge & Co., $40,000; E. Kelly & Co., $41,000; Jas. Patrick, $45,000.

The attempted revolution in Salvador had been speedily put down.

The advices from Nicaragua are only to March 28, and merely confirm the news already received.

A fearful earthquake had destroyed the city of Quito, with over 2,000 inhabitants.

Dr. Trevitt, the United States consul at Valparaiso, had a difficulty with the Government. Several of the principal actors in the outbreak of the 28th of February took refuge in his house, which was twice invaded by armed police, and the young men were taken prisoners. The first time they were driven off by the energetic deportment of the consul and his lady, but the next day they were forced to submit under a protest. Dr. Trevitt's *exequatur* had been cancelled by the Government in consequence.

The revolution in Chili was nearly quelled at last accounts. At an engagement in Coquimbo, the Government forces were forced to retire under a loss of ninety-five men. The revolutionists lost nearly double that number.

The Bolivar Opposition party were beaten in an engagement with the Government forces, with a loss of sixty-five killed, including many of the leaders. Gen. Cordoba, the ex-President, made his appearance on the frontiers, and troops were sent againt him.

The Ecuador blockading Guayaquil continues.

The loss by the earthquake at Quito is stated at $3,000,000, and the loss of life by same as high as five thousand souls! A number of the small towns to the northward of the city were also destroyed, and some damage was occasioned at Guayaquil.

RETURN OF THE PARAGUAY EXPEDITION.—The United States steamer Harriet Lane, of the Paraguay expedition, arrived at New York on Wednesday night. She sailed from Montevideo, March 12th. The St. Lawrence sailed the day previous. The following vessels would sail from Montevideo for the United States as soon as they could be prepared for sea, and the entire squadron, it was supposed, would be on their way home by the first of April:

Frigate Sabine, (flag ship,) Commodore Shubrick, with Judge Bowlin on board; sloop Falmouth; sloop Preble; steamers Atlanta, Memphis, Caledonia, Southern Star, Fulton, Water Witch, M. W. Chapin, and storeship Supply.

The Metacomet has been condemned as unseaworthy, and would remain at Montevideo till orders were received from Washington in regard to her.

The following vessels will remain on the Brazil station, under command of Charles Steedman, viz: Brigs Dolphin, Bainbridge, and Perry.

The store-ship Release will remain on the station for a few months.

The health of the officers and men of the squadron was good.

Lieut. Commanding F. B. Renshaw, late commander of the Bainbridge, is a passenger on board the Harriet Lane. Lieut. R. returns home on account of ill health, and is also bearer of dispatches to Washington.

EXCITEMENT IN OHIO—THE OBERLIN SLAVE RESCUE CASES.—The Cleveland *Herald* of Saturday says that thirty-seven of those concerned in the Oberlin affair were on the preceding day committed to jail, because they would not consent to be tried by the same jury that had convicted Bushnell. The *Herald* says:

"The prisoners are well cared for, provided with apartments in that part of the jail kept as a private dwelling, and well fed, and treated with every kindness and courtesy. So far are they from being cowed by their imprisonment, that they enjoy themselves as well as is possible under the circumstances. Last night they had beds made up in the upper range of cells, where they slept. To-day they are in the upper room of the jailer's residence, where newspapers and writing facilities have been furnished them. We understand that this afternoon the prisoners will be visited by a large party of ladies from the congregation of Prospect Street Church, accompanied by many other ladies residing in the city. To-morrow afternoon, Professor Peck, one of the prisoners, will preach to the 'brethren in bonds,' and such of the citizens as can be accommodated in the jail.

"Bushnell has not yet been sentenced. The punishment for his offence is a fine not to exceed $1,000, and imprisonment up to six months."

THE SLAVE TRADE AND FILIBUSTERISM.—A charge recently delivered to the grand jury in the United States Court at Mobile, by Judge Campbell, is very highly commended by the Savannah *Republican* as an earnest and conscientious condemnation of the slave trade and filibusterism. He examines the slave trade, and he finds it in fact, as well as in the opinions of the great men of the country, past and present, North and South, as well in the words they have uttered in regard to it, as the laws they have helped to frame to crush it, to partake of the nature of piracy, and he so regards it. He quotes the language of many distinguished Southern men, refers to the treaties of all civilized nations for the purpose of suppressing it, and to the rigor of the laws of the United States to the same end, and declares that "the public conscience has sanctioned the rigor of the laws."

CREVASSES ON THE MISSISSIPPI—*Memphis, April* 22.—Two coal boats were swept into a crevasse near Lake Providence, on Saturday last, and thirty lives were lost. Several serious breaks have occurred below.

GAMING DURING THE LAST CENTURY.—Walpole, in his Memoirs, describing the moral condition of society at his time, says:

"As the gaming and extravagance of the young men of quality was now arrived at a pitch never heard of, it is worth while to give some account of it. They had a club at one Almack's, in Pall Mall, where they played only for rouleaus of £50 each rouleau; and generally there was £10,000 in specie on the table. Lord Holland had paid above £20,000 for his two sons. Nor were the manners of the gamesters, or even their dresses for play, undeserving notice. They began by pulling off their embroidered clothes, and put on frieze greatcoats, or turned their coats inside outwards for luck. They put on pieces of leather (such as worn by footmen, when they clean the knives) to save their lace ruffles; and to guard their eyes from the light, and to prevent tumbling their hair, wore high-crowned straw hats with broad brims, and adorned with flowers and ribbons; masks to conceal their emotions when they played at quinze. Each gamester had a small neat stand by him with a large rim, to hold their tea, or a wooden bowl with an edge of ormolu to hold their rouleaus. They borrowed great sums of Jews, at exorbitant premiums. Charles Fox called his outer room, where those Jews waited till he rose, the *Jerusalem Chamber*. His brother Stephen was enormously fat; George Selwyn said 'he was in the right to deal with Shylocks, as he could give *them* pounds of flesh.' 'In three nights, the two brothers, the eldest not twenty-five, lost £32,000.'"

MARKETS.

BALTIMORE MARKET.

Carefully prepared to Tuesday, April 26, 1859.

Flour, Howard Street	$6.12 @	0.00
Flour, City Mills	6.00	0.00
Rye Flour	4.75	0.00
Corn Meal	3.75	3.87
Wheat, white	1.50	1.80
Wheat, red	1.45	1.52
Corn, white	76	78
Corn, Yellow	80	82
Rye, Pennsylvania	93	95
Rye, Virginia	85	86
Oats, Maryland and Virginia	48	50
Oats, Pennsylvania	52	54
Clover Seed	5.62	5.87
Timothy Seed	2.12	2.17½
Hay, Timothy	00.00	00.00
Hops	0	00
Potatoes, Mercer	0.00	0.00
Bacon, Shoulders	7⅛	0
Bacon, Sides	9	0
Bacon, Hams	9¾	10½
Pork, Mess	17.75	18.00
Pork, Prime	12.75	00.00
Beef, Mess	17.00	17.25
Lard, in barrels	11½	11¾
Lard, in kegs	12¾	13
Wool, Unwashed	00	00
Wool, Washed	00	00
Wool, Pulled	00	00
Wool, Fleece, common	00	00
Wool, Fleece, fine	00	00
Wool, Choice Merino	00	00
Butter, Western, in kegs	00	00
Butter, Roll	00	00
Cheese	00	00
Coffee, Rio	11	11¾
Coffee, Java	15	16

NEW YORK MARKET.

Carefully prepared to Tuesday, April 26, 1859.

Flour, State brands	$4.85 @	5.35
Flour, State brands, extra	5.85	6.20
Flour, Western	6.15	6.25
Flour, Southern	6.10	6.60
Rye Flour	3.60	4.40
Corn Meal	3.95	4.30
Wheat, white	0.00	0.00
Wheat, red	1.40	1.45
Corn, white	83	00
Corn, yellow	83	86
Rye	85	87
Oats	56	58
Clover Seed	7.50	8.50
Timothy Seed	2.37	2.62
Hay	60	70
Hops	13	00
Bacon, Shoulders	6½	7
Bacon, Sides	0	00
Bacon, Hams	8	9¼
Pork, Mess	16.87	17.00
Pork, Prime	12.75	12.87
Beef	8.00	9.00
Lard, in barrels	11¼	11½
Lard, in kegs	00	00
Butter, Western	11	16
Butter, State	12	23
Cheese	6	10
Coffee, Rio	11	12¼
Coffee, Java	14	14¾
Wool, Unwashed	00	00
Wool, Washed	00	00
Wool, Pulled	00	00
Wool, Fleece, common	00	00
Wool, Fleece, fine	00	00
Iron, Scotch, Pig	29.00	00.00
Lime, Rockland	65	00
Lime, common	1.00	00

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The Last Bird.
The Utah Expedition.
Bulls and Bears.
Inscription for an Alms-Chest.
A Trip to Cuba.
The Professor at the Breakfast Table.
The Minister's Wooing.
The Walker of the Snow.
Reviews and Literary Notices:
A New History of the Conquest of Mexico; Mothers and Infants, Nurses and Nursing; Street Thoughts; The Mathematical Monthly; Memoir and Letters of the late Thomas Seddon, Artist; Lady Morgan's Autobiography; Bitter-Sweet; The Mustee, Love and Liberty, Rowse's Portrait of Emerson, etc.
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[*Letter from a Lawyer in Newburyport, Mass.*]

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JOSEPH BURNETT, Esq.

ASTHMA.
ASTHMA.

[*Letter from a Clergyman.*]

Wardsboro, Vt., May 12, 1857.

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Yours, truly, KIMBALL HADLEY.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

SIGNS OF PROGRESS.

We are gratified to observe in that large wing of the Pennsylvania Democracy represented by Messrs. Forney, Hickman, and Governor Packer, unmistakable signs of a return to the true principles of Jefferson. In another column we insert copious extracts from the recent speech of Mr. Hickman at the Bolter's Convention, which, while it clings to the idea of "popular sovereignty," is decidedly Anti-Slavery in its tone. Colonel Forney, in his able newspaper, the Philadelphia *Press*, speaks in a similar vein. In a recent article upon the slave trade, he says:

"The servility of the Administration to the haughty and arrogant demands of the slave power has thus apparently reached its climax. Not content with endeavors to force Slavery upon the soil of Kansas against the will of her citizens; not content with advocating a theory designed to force Slavery, by positive law, into all the Territories yet unsettled, against the wishes of those who are to inhabit them; not content with squandering the money of the Federal Treasury with reckless extravagance, to purchase in the North venal white slaves to obey the behests of Southern ultraists; not content with the thirty-million bribe bill for the acquisition of Cuba, the Administration has crowned its pyramid of infamy by shamelessly neglecting its official duties for the purpose of conniving at the revival of a traffic, so odious that, but five years ago, scarcely a single human being in America would have dared to advocate it—a trade justly ranked in the same category with the blackest of human crimes—which has no parallel in its fiendish iniquity, but piracy in the most horrid forms, and which has been justly denominated 'the sum of all villainies.'

"If the statements we have taken from Southern newspapers are true, there is now no efficient barrier to the revival of the slave trade. The slave dramis has been so far revised that the existing laws completely set at defiance. When a cargo of slaves land upon our shores—no matter if the guilt of the murder of hundreds of human beings rests upon the souls of her crew—a Southern jury will render a bill of indictment against them. If a deputy marshal, in the centre of a Southern State, has enough old-fashioned integrity, notwithstanding his Southern education and prejudices, to suppose that a British execution of slavers laws is just and proper, we have at Washington a President to thwart his legal and humane efforts, either by his silence or by his direct orders, and thus to sanction and confirm the inhuman, illegal, and blood-stained right. Such an African slave trade pirates claim to hold the unfortunate victims of their merciless avarice."

In this connection, while praising the independent tone of the Pennsylvania bolters, we must express our hearty concurrence in the following article from the Pittsburgh *Gazette*, in which the folly of the bolters, in attempting to carry Douglas with them, by main force, against his earnest entreaties to be left in the slough of Slavery, is pointed out. The *Gazette* says:

"*Cruel.*—At a late meeting of the Packer wing of the Democracy of Bucks, Congressman Swartz was the chairman, a resolution was adopted, among others, that the treatment which Senator Douglas received from the national Administration, within the last years, has been cruel. We fear our Democratic county neighbors are speaking without the record. Senator Douglas, who should be the best judge of the kind of treatment he received, evidently does not agree with them. Has he not since that alleged 'cruel' treatment literally crawled into the Democratic caucus, and when there, hasbishe not in the most abject manner begged the privilege of humbly supporting the most obnoxious measures which Mr. Buchanan could place before him? Did he not write a whining letter to Connecticut, telling the anti-Lecomptonities there to stultify themselves, and and swallow Lecompton even as it is dished up by his former persecutor. If there is any cruelty connected with the matter, it must refer to the treatment which Senator Douglas has bestowed upon himself and his followers. There is no doubt that the latter have been 'cruelly' betrayed by a cowardly captain, whom they supposed had nerve and heart enough to be a man. In that expocatation they have been wofully met and repelled, and its authors overwhelmed, whether directed against the holding of slaves or the trade from wbeuce it derived its existence in this country.

In the following pointed and well-timed article, the able and respected cotemporary of the Mississippi *Baptist* has placed the true staple which we hope will be followed up, not only by himself, but by religious journals throughout the South.

From the Mississippi Baptist.

A WORD TO THE POINT, AND IN SEASON.

We have looked on with some interest, mingled with no little indignation, at the nimby-pamby philanthropy of the American people, displayed upon the occasion of the capture of an African slave ship. Even some of our Southern papers have shown a weakness on this subject that we have been surprised to see. A Vicksburg paper recently advocated the idea that the officers or traders who should attempt to sell those slaves to our planters should be delivered over to the law, for doing that guaranteed to us by our chartered rights in the Constitution, to wit: to hold property in slaves, and to buy and sell them at pleasure. Common experience and religious observation, continued now for more than two hundred years, teach us that American Slavery is the most favorable condition in which the barbaric African can be placed, for his moral culture and religious training. Our Sunday school has he ever improved or been christianized? We know these remarks do not apply to all the tribes of Africa, particularly those of Abeokuta and the interior, now occupied by those excellent missionaries, brothers Brown, Clarke, and others. Those tribes have never fallen so low, nor so completely have they "forgotten God," as the ultra savage of the Congo and Guinea coast, where they are captured by their own countrymen, and it only to be dragged to the slave dock and home to the cruel masters or sacrificed on the altars of fiendish superstition, and their skulls nased as paving stones or implements of domestic use. While we would not at present argue the propriety or impropriety of the slave trade, we dare confront the world, and say, without fear of contradiction, that the African translated to this country, and trained upon our Southern plantations, with the Gospel preached to them every Sabbath, is in a far better condition—morally, socially, and religiously—than those who remain at bome in their native barbarism, or domestic slavery to masters no more elevated in the moral scale than themselves. The millions of happy, prosperous, and truly pious negroes of the South, stand as living witnesses to the truth of these remarks. Our cotemporary of the *Presbyterian Witness*, at Knoxville, Tennessee, seems to be of our way of thinking, though it is not quite clear to us, but to speak, so many of our Southern presses being under the control of those infected with Beecherism or trained in Northern schools.

From the Mississippian and State Gazette, April 13.

THE RIGHT TO PROTECTION.

Not more clear is the doctrino that the flag of the Union is a guarantee of protection to the persons and property of American citizens on the high seas, than that the property, slave or otherwise, of the South, is entitled to protection in the Territories while they are under the control of the Federal Government.

The States have a common right to the enjoyment of the territories, the property of the acquisition and possession of territory by the Federal head. They stand as equals in the eye of the Constitution. A primo object of the framers of the compact was to "*establish justice*;" it is so declared in the bond, and it is declared that nothing in the Constitution "shall be so construed as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular State."

Mississippi and Massachusetts (pardon the association, ovon for illustration's sake) have alike delegated to the Federal Government the power to secure them in the enjoyment of their rights, respectively, wherever its jurisdiction extends, and where theirs exists. In doing, when a Territorial Legislature, travelling outside of its legitimate sphere of authority, presumes to say to Massachusetts, your citizens shall not come hither with their peculiar kind of property, it does not become Massachusetts to march her own armies into the Territory to enforce her right, but to demand protection of the Government, the agent created by the States to perform this service. And so when the rights of Mississippi in the Territories are invaded—when the privilege of occupancy by her citizens, with whatever property they choose to carry with them, is denied—it is her duty to claim tbo intervention of the same Federal head in their behalf. It is only when the agent fails to perform its appropriate functions, that it becomes constitutional for the principal its sovereignty and provide for itself a remedy.

This doctrine is so clearly just, and so manifestly in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Constitution, and the objects contemplated by the framers, that it seems strange that any attempt has been made to controvert it.

If, then, it be the doctrine of the Constitution, it is the doctrino of the Democratic party. We have not comprehended the object of this party aright, if it has not shown a weakness on this subject that we have been surprised to see. A Vicksburg paper recently advocated the idea that the officers or traders who should attempt to sell those slaves to our planters should be delivered over to the law, for doing that guaranteed to us by our chartered rights in the Constitution, to wit: to hold property in slaves, and to buy and sell them at pleasure. Common experience and religious observation, continued now for more than two hundred years, teach us that American Slavery is the most favorable condition in which the barbaric African can be placed, for his moral culture and religious training. Our Sunday school has he ever improved or been christianized? We know these remarks do not apply to all the tribes of Africa, particularly those of Abeokuta and the interior, now occupied by those excellent missionaries, brothers Brown, Clarke, and others. Those tribes have never fallen so low, nor so completely have they "forgotten God," as the ultra savage of the Congo and Guinea coast, where they are captured by their own countrymen, and it only to be dragged to the slave dock and home to the cruel masters or sacrificed on the altars of fiendish superstition, and their skulls nased as paving stones or implements of domestic use. While we would not at present argue the propriety or impropriety of the slave trade, we dare confront the world, and say, without fear of contradiction, that the African translated to this country, and trained upon our Southern plantations, with the Gospel preached to them every Sabbath, is in a far better condition—morally, socially, and religiously—than those who remain at bome in their native barbarism, or domestic slavery to masters no more elevated in the moral scale than themselves. The millions of happy, prosperous, and truly pious negroes of the South, stand as living witnesses to the truth of these remarks. Our cotemporary of the *Presbyterian Witness*, at Knoxville, Tennessee, seems to be of our way of thinking, though it is not quite clear to us, but so, so many of our Southern presses being under the control of those infected with Beechersim or trained in Northern schools.

Correspondence of the Philadelphia Press.

SPEECH OF HON. JOHN HICKMAN.

HARRISBURG, *April* 13, 1859.

The Democratic State Convention assembled this morning, in the Hall of the House of Representatives, at ten minutes past ten o'clock. From an early hour it was evident that there would be full delegations from all portions of the State. The respectability, influence, and Democracy, of those who were present, were undoubted, and called even for an approving remark from the representatives of those they were met to condemn. It was by far the finest representation of the Democracy gathered in the State Capitol for many years.

Mr. T. P. Campbell, of Huntingdon, called the Convention to order, and moved that Dr. George McCook, of Allegheny, act as chairman; for about half an hour, owing to the delay in which motion was agreed to. Mr. McCook presided.

The following are the most interesting portions of the speech of Mr. Hickman:

"By the action of the Thirty-fourth Congress, the complaints made by the residents of Kansas were ascertained to be true. Although the South, by the legislation of 1854, was pledged to maintain the domestic sovereignty of the Territories, a portion of their people from Missouri entered upon the soil of Kansas, and by force and fraud seized the law-making power, stifled the voice of the majority, and enacted statutes disgraceful to the age and nation. This fact, when legally revealed, made a deep impression upon the public mind, and Mr. Buchanan found it necessary, in order to carry the election in his own State, to pledge himself distinctly to the maintenance of the doctrine of popular sovereignty, and to defend the rights of those who had been thus ruthlessly despoiled. I will not pretend to indicate the particular weakness in his nature that induced him to turn the hand of the suicide against his own fame, as it matters little whether it arose from timidity, a fear of his enemies outweighing a love of his friends, a careless disregard of fair dealing, or a weak and puerile vanity. It is enough to know that he deceived all our hopes, turned with blackest ingratitude upon that self-sacrificing friendship by which he reached the goal of his feverish ambition, and sought, by all the means within the reach of drunken and staggering authority, to disgrace every man whom he could not debauch. Suddenly, and as by the touch of the wand of the magician, he became transformed from the sympathizer and defender of Popular Sovereignty into the shameless defender of aggressive and lawdefying Slavery. The halls of the National Legislature were turned into marts for conscience. He published his interpretations of party principles and platforms with the arrogance of a dictator, and commanded his subordinates in office, and his coward slaves, to reiterate and proclaim his bulls of party excommunication against those who had enough to follow an independent judgment. These acts of themselves are enough to sevor allegiance. It would be an ill-shapon manhood which could tolerate them in silence. But he was not content with these. He attempted to stigmatized as rebellious. Sir, wo will see whore the rebellion will end. It will end in the supremacy of the laws; in the integrity of the Constitution; in the purification of parties; in the overthrow of usurpation; and in the full enjoyment of the rights of the States, and the equality of the people. Then will the Democracy, and its distinguished leader, be able to open their eyes to the truth, and loosen their tongues to utter it, by continuing them in office under a new Administration, governed by a more benign policy. Parties with such a record as ours shall be able to grasp the control of our Government, then must the strong empire of the North be awarfed by barrenness, and eighteen millions of white people bore, be added to the four millions of black slaves yonder. That is indeed a strange illustration of the advantages of free government, which proclaims a necessity for crushing out the inherent power of a people by fashioning their institutions for them, requiring it to be sanctioned, and yet allows and encourages a denial of law by which alone a bankrupt Treasury can be replenished, and honest debts paid.

"The indefensible and destructive management of the Post Office Department requires especially to be noticed. Within a very short period, for the mere purpose of enriching contractors, bestowing largesses upon sterile and uninhabited districts of the South, and acquiring power, the expenditures have been almost doubled—now up to the enormous sum of twenty millions of dollars—and the mail system made a by-word and a reproach. With new, extended, and expensive routes, without corresponding returns, sunk in fathomless debt, aye, paralyzed by burdens which it can never pay, and which are piteously begs the sinews of prolonged malfeasance. But, upon whom does he call? Upon those to whom the appeal is always made, when money, votes, soldiers, or other effective help, is required—upon the laboring thrifty—the 'mud-sills' of the Eastern, Northeru, Middle, and Western States. It is consoling to know we are good enough to pay, if not to receive. We are at least able, if not respectable. If we have not cbivalry, we have fields, and farms, and factories. Let us then, without whimpering, 'split the difference.' The 'F. F. V.'s,' or the 'F. F. T.s,' shall take all the posts of patronage, while we will pay their fines and their plan proposed, by which we shall do this, is a very simple one. We bave only to pay five cents, instead of three, on each letter we write, abolish the present 'franking privilege,' and, consequently, cut off the distribution of all seeds and agricultural and mechanical and political information from our people, and the thing is in great measure accomplished. And why not do this? To be sure, we more than pay now, for the most valuable portion of the documents are bighly prised by us; but do we not know that '*the* domestic institution' is too poor to pay, and too ignorant to read. We seem to be prone eternally to forget that we were made by the power of wind and steam and water. If we would remember this fact, I think we could cordially unite with those who met here on the 16th ult., and join them in peans and praise to the new American Monarchy."

* * * * * * *

"Such are the facts, and such the circumstances, to veer up its disgraceful defeats, and to reconstruct its sinking fortunes, the Administration now proposes, by virtuo of a transfer of the war-making power to itself, to visit chastisement upon the Chinese for their alleged wrongs, and by the acquisition of Cuba to extend the area of Freedom gluttonized on Slavery. A man self-made mad, and then self-destroyed—a Lear in rags, and not in mockery, having lost the empire by his weakness of folly, clutches the flying air, and seeks to mount again to power and influence. Vanity of vanities! there is no restitution for fallen greatness.

"A few material inquiries may possibly present themselves, when we come to consider the propriety of the purchase of the vain and much-praised 'Queen of the Antilles,' and of bringing her into our Union. Will it increase or diminish the value of property? Will it be a benefit or a curse to the country? How far will a well-regulated prudence determine us to go in intrusting such vast amounts in the hands of one who has already perverted us—to whom we have no confidence? By what legal secret will we be able to consummate a purchase of Spain, who has determined not to sell? And how can we better secure ourselves against those who, in the very act of proposing to purchase, sought to humiliate us, by addiug to their proposal an extension, and by giving them the control of the Gulf of Mexico as they may bavo it over the Mississippi? Will it be wise school for myself to love my enemies, but not better than myself. I can willingly admit my brother to an equal enjoyment of a common inheritance; but I cannot, when he does me violence and insult, consent to give him the power and means him forcibly to take it all. So I can and will love my Southern neighbor. I will freely allow him an equal participation of all the fruits of our generous system. I will divide with him the temple of Liberty. I will shield him from the evil-doer. But when he donios to me what I am willing to grant to him, and that which my title covers, I will not stultify myself, and place weapons in his hand for my destruction; and I will never pay tribute for either his kindness or forbearance. Cuba may be important to the Union; I will admit that it will be so when we have just and equal laws, and honest officers; but before we acquire it, I desire to be informed whether any legislation can possibly be had as beneficial to Pennsylvania as the purchase would be to Tennessee or Georgia; and above all shall I seek to know how, thenceforward, we are to be treated. For if I am a traitor—an unconscious and unrewarded one—to either thirty-three or fifteen States, I will not add to the enormity of my offence by extending the power of States against which my guilt must operate."

From the St. Louis (Mo.) Democrat.

THE POLICY OF THE SOUTH OPPOSED TO THE PROGRESS OF THE WEST.

Casting aside all party antipathes or predictions, it is becoming apparent to sobor inquiry that the schemes ontertained by the politicians of the Southern States conflict with the measures called for by the full development of the West. We should be sorry to accuse one section of the country of boaring ill will towards another, if irrefragable testimony, placing it beyond doubt, did not exist in the records of Congress. Every one remembers how Calhoun, even as Toombs, Hammond, Hunter, and Mason, foresee the sectional insignificance of the Gulf and Southern Atlantic States, in the overshadowing grandeur of tho popnlated West. Last summer, a Representative from South Carolina, (Mr. Boyce,) in addressing his constituents, expressed his gratitudo to Hoaven for that barrenness of soil and aridity of climate which his prejudice or his ignorance attributed to the far Western latitudes. But the truth is, the most uncompromising struggle is now progressing between the masses and the planters, for the possession of the unoccupied Territories. The former, in the deliberate intentions of Taney himself—"the highest judicial tribunal in tho land"—it can easily be shown that we are citizens of the United States. But if we are not citizens, then citizenship is not necessary for our full enfranchisement; inasmuch as we enjoyed the right of suffrago and other rights from 1776 to 1820, a poriod of forty-four years.

Colored men inferiors, and the Declaration of Independence a lie! Jefferson and Franklin fools! &c., &c.

Yours,

A. P. S.

LEGAL REMEDIES IN THE TERRITORIES.—It has always been the position of statesmen from the South, that the Constitution carried Slavery into the common Territories, inasmuch as it recognised the right of the citizens of every State to emigrate to them with every species of property recognised as such in any of the States of the Union. This principle is now recognised and enforced as law by the Dred Scott decision.

It follows, then, that in all those Territories acquired by conquest, as California and Mexico, if there were existing at the time any laws inhibiting Slavery, they were abrogated by the Constitution of the United States, the moment the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was ratified by the Senate.

The law in rolation to the natnro and tonure of the property would, of course, be that of the new sovoroign; but if the new sovereign did not abrogate the laws of property in force in the courts, then the remedies would be those existing at the time of the acquisition. This would leave in force the remedies existing in the body of civil and Spanish law for the recovery of property, and the two States now on record, viz: Louisiana and Texas, would be the guides for the profession in the premises. Nothing stood opposed to them but the Mexican decree inhibiting Slavery, and that was abrogated by the Constitution of the United States, as to the common Territories.—*Washington Union.*

A witness was called to the stand to give his testimony. Having sworn to tho truth, he turned to the counsel at the bar, and, before giving his testimony, very earnestly made the inquiry, "Say, strangor, which side am I on?"

THE SOUTHERN PLATFORM.

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THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

G. BAILEY, Editor and Proprietor.
D. R. GOODLOE, *Assistant Editor.*
J. G. WHITTIER, *Corresponding Editor.*

Vol. XIII. January, 1859.

The *National Era* is about to enter upon its Thirteenth volume.

Twelve years ago, when the Discussion of the Question of Slavery was practically prohibited in this District, the *Era* was commenced for the purpose of asserting and defending the Rights of Discussion, and of giving fair expression to Anti-Slavery Sentiments. In the House of Representatives, John Quincy Adams and Joshua R. Giddings alone gave it moral support; in the Senate, it found not a single welI wishor; while outside of Congress it stood here, solitary and unsustained, under ban and menace. A conflict followed, in which an excited populace undertook to suppress it by violence, but it resisted the storm, maintained the position, and from that hour the Liberty of the Press was established in the District of Columbia.

Twelve years have passed, and to-day, the *Era* finds itself among the most distinguished members of the Sacred Band, elected to carry out the Principles it was instituted to advocate, and the House almost controlled by Representatives, with whom it can consistently and heartily act as co-worker.

THIS IS THE REASON why the *Era* should continuo to be sustained. It was the first Press to raise the standard of Freedom in the Capital of the Republic. For twelve years it has been identified with the Anti-Slavery movement, and especially with the political Anti-Slavery element of the Republican Party. Although independent of mere Party organization, it was the first paper to advocate a general union of the Opponents of the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854, in a Party of Freedom; took a leading part in the formation of the Republican Party, and, while holding itself at liberty to blame what it considered blameworthy, has uniformly vindicated it as true to its Principles. It has never been a burden to its friends, never solicited, nor at any time would have been willing to receive, any kind of official or congressional patronage, has always been self-sustaining. From its friends, then, it asks a subscription that shall enable it to go forward in the work of duty so much effort, and to continue to wield an influence which, I trust, has not been exerted for evil.

The coming year will be a critical one for the Republican cause. Strong efforts will be made to demoralize it, and accommodate it to the views of those, who, unwilling to support the Administration, do not yet appreciate the true nature or objects of our movement. Squatter Sovereignty will be commenced a story by MARY HOWITT, called

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A. R. BARRINGER, Secretary.

Legal Remedies in the Territories.—It has always been the position of statesmen from the South, that the Constitution carried Slavery into the common Territories, inasmuch as it recognised the right of the citizens of every State to emigrate to them with every species of property recognised as such in any of the States of the Union. This principle is now recognised and enforced as law by the Dred Scott decision.

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"Hickman, who is the Territory in which every where, to all rights of person and of property,

"HE RISING DEAD, YET SPEAKETH."

IF the above can with propriety be applied to any man of modern times, that man is Dr. WM. A. ALCOTT, who a recent death has sent a song of sweet thoughts to thousands of hearts; but "*he yet speaketh*," and his works do follow him. Perhaps no man has done so much for the cause of Health as he has done, and he is not dead, yet ever active; with a heart overflowing with benevolence and love for universal man. He wrote, as directed, and counselled the young, and the old, and those of middle life, and his counsels were followed by a host of years, and tens of thousands, who have been made wiser and happier by his teachings, will ever fondly cherish his memory.

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